MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 FEBRUARY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio, announced that units of the Iraqi 2d Army Corps foiled an Iranian counteroffensive early on 1 February, "completely" destroying the attacking forces. The Iraqis repulsed another Iranian counterattack the previous day, according to an Iraqi commander cited by INA. While monitored Iranian media have not thus far mentioned any Iranian counterattacks against the Iraqi 2d Army, the Iranian military communique for 31 January announced that Iranian forces inflicted "blows" on "intruding" Iraqi troops in the Sumar region of Bakhtaran, according to Tehran radio. IRNA said the Iraqis had launched a "limited" attack south of Qasr-e Shirin, but failed to capture Iranian positions and suffered heavy casualties. Such "desperate" attacks are aimed at overshadowing Iranian celebrations marking the 6th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, the agency contended.

Meanwhile, Baghdad radio broadcast an official statement announcing Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's decision to release Iranian prisoners captured in the 31 January attack by Iraq's 2d Army. This follows Iraq's decision to release POW's captured in the 3d Army's offensive in the southern sector on 27-28 January, the statement noted.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Iraqi-Saudi Cooperation — Iraq has "completed the requirements" for building a pipeline through Saudi Arabia to export oil through the Red Sea ports, the Iraqi finance minister disclosed in an interview with London's *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*.

Syrian-Saudi Relations — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad discussed Middle East developments with visiting Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah, Damascus radio reported. They exchanged views on ways of "confronting" the current situation and stressed the need to reinforce Arab solidarity. Vice President Rif'at al-Asad attended the banquet in honor of the Saudi visitor.

Jordanian-Egyptian Relations — The London magazine *AL-MAJALLAH* cited information from Western sources indicating that Jordan and Egypt have concluded a "strategic cooperation agreement" whereby both sides are ready to give each other military assistance in the event of a threat to either of them.

PLO/Palestinians

Jordanian Proposals — The Fatah Central Committee met in Tunis on 30 January to discuss new suggestions by Jordan on a common platform for joint political action, a senior PLO official disclosed in remarks reported by the *JORDAN TIMES*. While expressing Fatah's determination to reach a joint formula with Jordan, the official noted that Fatah is unwilling to accept UN Resolution 242, which is still endorsed by the new Jordanian proposals. Another difference between the two sides is that Jordan wants a joint Jordanian-Palestinian negotiating team while Fatah seeks a broader "united" Arab team, the official pointed out.

Refugee Camps in Lebanon — A Baghdad Voice of PLO radio commentary warned that "isolationist" forces are concentrating near Sidon in preparation for entering the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp following the Israeli withdrawal. The radio urged all "national" forces in southern Lebanon to protect the Palestinian refugee camps from new massacres. In related developments, Jerusalem television stated that the Lebanese Army is planning to deploy in 'Ayn al-Hulwah, while Voice of Lebanon radio cited a Western diplomatic report that followers of Fatah dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha are preparing to enter the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah camps.

Egypt

Egypt wants to "decisively settle" the Tabah issue in order to devote its efforts to solving other regional problems and broadening the framework of peace and relations with Israel, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz stated in remarks reported by MENA. In a related commentary, Cairo radio stressed that Israel's stand on Tabah is "extremely important" for Egypt because an Israeli decision to withdraw from Tabah would constitute a significant change in Israel's policy, demonstrating its good intentions and sincere desire to "open the dossier" on peace in the Middle East.

Libya

The Jamahiriyah's acting representative at the United Nations denied as "groundless" the accusation that Libya was responsible for an attempt to assassinate Chadian President Hissein Habre last September, JANA reported.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 021 *1 February 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'Arafat Returns to Tunis From Jeddah 30 Jan *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 1
Fatah Central Committee Holds Meetings in Tunis ..... A 1
30 January Meetings *[Sanaa Voice of Palestine]* ..... A 1
31 January Meetings *[Amman AL-DUSTUR 1 Feb]* ..... A 1
8 Syrians Planned To Kill PLO Officials in London *[Baghdad Voice of the Masses]* ..... A 1
Ahmad Jibril Addresses PFLP-GC Graduation Class *[Damascus]* ..... A 1
Commentary Calls for Protecting S. Lebanon Camps *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 2
Egypt-Jordan Ties, 'Arafat Visit to Egypt Viewed *[London AL-MAJALLAH 30 Jan - 5 Feb]* ..... A 2
Fatah Claims Credit for Attack on Israeli Bus *[Damascus]* ..... A 3
Israeli Vehicles Stoned Near Nabulus, Jericho *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 3
Israeli Vehicle, W. Bank Settlement Attacked *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 3

OPEC AFFAIRS

KUNA Explains Circumstances of OPEC Agreement ..... B 1
Mexico To Maintain Autonomy in Oil Market *[NOTIMEX]* ..... B 1
Tehran: OPEC Decisions Weaken Organization ..... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

Briefs: 'Infiltrators' Arrested ..... C 1

OMAN

Loan Agreements With Banks Signed 30 Jan *[WAKH]* ..... C 1
Briefs: Assistant Chief of Defense Staff ..... C 1

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From Sudanese President *[WAKH]* ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Sudanese Information Minister Arrives 31 Jan ..... C 1
Riyadh Commentator on OPEC Price Agreement ..... C 1

UAE

Mexican President Makes Stopover Visit 31 Jan ..... C 2

YAR

PDRY Officials Arrive in Sanaa, Make Statement *[Aden]* ..... C 2
Message Conveyed to President ..... C 2
Joint Meeting With Soviet Economic Officials Held ..... C 2

EGYPT

Al-Baz on Mubarak U.S. Visit, Tabah Talks ..... D 1
Ghali Outlines 1 Feb Mubarak-Nyerere Talks ..... D 1
Ghali Reports to Mubarak on African Tour ..... D 1
'Abd al-Majid Discusses Upcoming U.S. Tour, Tabah ..... D 1
Labor Agreement Signed With Jordan 31 Jan ..... D 2
Commentaries Analyze Positions on Tabah Issue ..... D 2
Israel's Stance Questioned ..... D 2
Egypt's Position Reiterated ..... D 2
AKHBAR AL-YAWM Denounces More U.S. Aid to Israel ..... D 3

IRAQ

Army Spokesman Delineates Iranian Offensive ..... E 1
Al-Jaburi Comments on 31 Jan Offensive ..... E 1
Communique No 1,728 Issued on 30-31 Jan Operations ..... E 1
President Orders Release of Iranian Prisoners ..... E 2
3d Army Corps Commander Speaks on 28 Jan Battles ..... E 2
Finance Minister Views Foreign Economic Ties *[London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 30 Jan]* ..... E 2
Oil Minister Reviews OPEC Conference Results ..... E 3
Trade Minister Receives GDR Official 31 Jan ..... E 3
Ambassador in Finland Dies of Heart Attack ..... E 3

JORDAN

King Husayn Returns from Iraq 31 Jan ..... F 1
House Asked to Denounce U.S. Aid to Israel ..... F 1
Parliament Supports King's Views on Media *[SAWT AL-SHA'B 1 Feb]* ..... F 1

LEBANON

Karami on Nation's Problem, Israeli Withdrawals ..... G 1
Birri on South Lebanon, Beirut Security *[London AL-MAJALLAH 30 Jan-5 Feb]* ..... G 1
Birri on Israeli 'Conspiracy' ..... G 2
VOL on Cancellation of Sha'ban's Iran Visit ..... G 2
Western Embassy Expects Palestinian Clashes *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Israeli Targets Attacked in Southern Region ..... G 2
Israelis Evacuate Positions in Sidon Area *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
18 Killed, 50 Wounded in Tripoli Explosion *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 3
Briefs: Egyptian Envoy Departs ..... G 3

SYRIA

Saudi Crown Prince Arrives, Meets Al-Asad ..... H 1
Further on Al-Asad Meeting ..... H 1
AL-BA'TH Raps U.S.; Jordan, Iraq, Egypt Gathering ..... H 1
TISHRIN on Tabah Talks, 'Deviating' Policy ..... H 1
AL-THAWRAH Comments on Rabin Visit to Washington ..... H 2

ISRAEL

Further on U.S. Visit of Defense Minister Rabin ..... I 1
Rabin Meets Reagan ..... I 1
Further on Rabin Remarks ..... I 1
Rabin: Reagan Favors Aid *[HADASHOT 1 Feb]* ..... I 1
U.S. Arms Sales, International Issues Viewed ..... I 1
Rabin on Saudis, Soviets *[MA'ARIV 30 Jan]* ..... I 1
Officials on Arms Freeze ..... I 2
Joint Communique Issued on Tabah Talks *[GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE 29 Jan]* ..... I 2

Reportage on Tabah Talks Held in Beersheba ..... I 3
Venue of Tabah Talks *[HA'ARETZ 31 Jan]* ..... I 3
MIA's, Daqar Crew Discussion *[DAVAR 31 Jan]* ..... I 3
Canadian Refugee Camp Discussion ..... I 3
Shamir on Syrian Ambitions, Egyptian Normalization ..... I 3
Shamir on Settlers' Demand for Rabin To Resign ..... I 3
Eban Raps Shamir Remarks on West Bank Settlement ..... I 3
Weizman Would Meet 'Arafat If Israel Recognized *[HA'ARETZ 1 Feb]* ..... I 4
Arens Expresses Reservations About Withdrawal ..... I 4
No Early Evacuation of Sidon Area Planned ..... I 4
More Terrorism Expected ..... I 4
Moda'i: Package Deal Will Influence U.S. Aid ..... I 4
Negev Power Plant Planned; Fuel Import Figures ..... I 5
UK's Edward Heath Meets Frayj, Al-Shawwa ..... I 5
Reserves Call-Up Exercise Ends 31 January ..... I 5
AL-ANBA' Publishes Last Editorial on Closure ..... I 5

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Chairs FLN Politburo Session ..... Q 1
Rabat Paper Reports Algerian Army Maneuvers *[KUNA]* ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Further Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Premier ..... Q 1
Joint Talks Begin ..... Q 1
Delegations Received by Al-Qadhdhafi ..... Q 1
Jallud Speech at Banquet ..... Q 1
Visiting SRV Vice Chairman Declares Support ..... Q 3
Lebanese National Democratic Front Group Arrives ..... Q 3
UN Envoy Refutes Chadian 'Fabrications' ..... Q 3

MOROCCO

Niger Foreign Minister Concludes Visit, Departs ..... Q 4
Military Exercise with Spain, U.S. Planned *[Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 30 Jan]* ..... Q 4

SUDAN

Numayri Receives Message From President Reagan ..... Q 4
Numayri Decrees New SSU Appointments ..... Q 5
Al-Tayyib Addresses Drought Relief Agencies ..... Q 5
SPLA Radio: Bor Town Suffers 'Extensive Damage' ..... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Holds Meeting With GDR's Rauchfuss ..... R 1
Wolde Receives Norwegian Development Aid Minister ..... R 1
Eritrean Official Reports Merging of Forces *[QNA]* ..... R 1

KENYA

Briefs: Iranian Delegation Visits ..... R 1
Commercial Agreement With Yugoslavia

SEYCHELLES

France's Penne Arrives From Mauritius ..... R 2

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan: DFSS Kills 37 Soldiers in Ghel Gudut ..... R 2

TANZANIA

Unionist Charges Interference at OATUU Meeting *[PANA]* ..... R 2
Briefs: Cholera Deaths, Dysentery Outbreak ..... R 2

WEST AFRICA

Diouf Anniversary Address to Senegambia Confederation ..... T 1

BENIN

Military, Security Appointments Announced ..... T 1

BURKINA

Canada Closes Mission; Burkinabe Envoy Recalled ..... T 2
Cooperation Talks With Netherlands Begin 30 Jan ..... T 2
Capital CDR Branch Attacks Intellectuals, Unionists ..... T 2
Undersecretary, High Commissioners Appointed ..... T 3

IVORY COAST

President Receives Rwandan Foreign Minister ..... T 3

LIBERIA

Matthews Denies Distribution of Leaflets by UPP ..... T 4

NIGER

First Batch of Gabonese Food Aid Arrives in Niamey ..... T 4

NIGERIA

Oil Minister Appraises Outcome of Geneva OPEC Meeting ..... T 4
Use of Commercial Aircraft for Surveillance Criticized ..... T 4
Contributions to OAU Liberation Committee, ANC ..... T 5
Briefs: Romanian Aid Offer ..... T 5

SIERRA LEONE

Stevens Announces 'Wide-Ranging' Salary Increases ..... T 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Bhekimpi Opens SADCC Annual Conference in Swaziland ..... U 1
Mmusi Says SADCC Not 'Ganging Up' on RSA *[THE SWAZI OBSERVER 1 Feb]* ..... U 2

ANGOLA

214 UNITA Rebels Killed in Kuanza-Norte ..... U 2
KUP: Savimbi Swears in New Chief of Staff ..... U 2

MADAGASCAR

USSR Women's Delegation Meets President's Wife ..... U 3

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Cites RSA Officials on Support for Resistance ..... U 3
NOTICIAS Urges Action To Validate RSA Pledges *[19 Jan]* ..... U 3
Sofala Party Official Held for Aiding 'Bandits' *[NOTICIAS 19 Jan]* ..... U 4

NAMIBIA

38 SWAPO 'Insurgents' Killed in Past Week *[SAPA]* ..... U 4

SOUTH AFRICA

Reaction to Botha Offer Extended to Mandela, Others ..... U 4
Prisoners To Be Told of Offer ..... U 4
Treurnicht Opposes Release ..... U 4
Slabbert Praises Statement ..... U 4
ANC Said To Reject Offer *[Umtata]* ..... U 4
ANC 'Cautious' in Support of Mandela Statements *[Johannesburg CITY PRESS 3 Feb]* ..... U 4
Le Grange Says Suzman Creates False Picture of Mandela *[Umtata]* ..... U 5
Radio: ANC Must Choose Between Violence, Talk ..... U 5
Viljoen Announces Black Resettlement Suspension ..... U 6
Foreign Minister Comments on Issues, Policy ..... U 6
Mozambique Charges Not Verified ..... U 6
On Mozambique Cease-Fire *[Umtata]* ..... U 6
More Rebels From Botswana *[Umtata]* ..... U 6
Defends 'Coventry Four' Action ..... U 7
Further Reaction to President Botha's Speech ..... U 7
RAPPORT Praises Remarks *[27 Jan]* ..... U 7
'Hand of Friendship' Extended *[DIE TRANSVALER 28 Jan]* ..... U 8
Revives Old Ideas *[RAND DAILY MAIL 31 Jan]* ..... U 8
State Department Cited ..... U 9
Heunis Says White Monopoly on Constitution at End ..... U 9
Minister Cites Need for Visible Progress ..... U 10

ZAMBIA

Official Asks for Continued Cuban Presence in Africa ..... U 10

ZIMBABWE

Supply Minister Calls for Banning Nkomo's ZAPU *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 10
Minister Says Dissidents Headquartered in Bulawayo ..... U 10
Briefs: Loan From the Netherlands ..... U 10

'Arafat Returns to Tunis From Jeddah 30 Jan

JN311811 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] arrived in Tunis from Jeddah at dawn yesterday at the end of a tour of a number of Arab countries. The tour included the YAR, PDRY, and Saudi Arabia. During this tour, Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar met with senior officials from the three fraternal Arab countries to discuss current Arab and Palestinian developments and events.

Fatah Central Committee Holds Meetings in Tunis

30 January Meetings

GF311734 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee began meetings in Tunis on 30 January. The meetings will be devoted to discussing the Palestinian formula on the proposals of Jordan's King Husayn concerning the joint moves to build future relations and find a solution to the Palestinian issue.

Intensive contacts with the Jordanian side will soon follow the committee's current meetings — which are attended by Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] PLO Executive Committee Chairman — before announcing the final stand of both sides on the issue of their political moves on the Arab and international levels.

During its meetings, the Fatah Central Committee will discuss the results of the talks which Brother Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, held with the Jordanian officials on Palestinian-Jordanian future actions.

Brother Khalid al-Hasan returned to Tunis on 29 January after meeting with King Husayn in Amman on 27 January. Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar also returned to Tunis on 30 January to attend the Fatah Central Committee meetings.

31 January Meetings

JN010835 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Feb 85 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman — The Fatah Central Committee continued its meetings in Tunis yesterday under PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to discuss issues related to the rearrange-ment of Palestinian affairs, Palestinian-Arab relations, and developments in the Arab and international arenas. At the conclusion of its meetings, the Fatah Central Committee will issue a statement on Palestinian-Jordanian joint moves, which the PLO is very eager to pursue. The statement will also include a reply to His Majesty King Husayn's proposals at the opening of the 17th PNC. The current trend in the committee's meeting is to intensify efforts to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East to be attended by the two superpowers and UN Security Council members but without Resolution 242 as the basis for this conference.

Following the Fatah Central Committee meetings, 'Arafat will leave for Saudi Arabia, and from there to Jordan.

AL-DUSTUR has learned that Khalil al-Wazir is in Algeria where he is completing talks with some Palestinian organizations, particularly with the Palestinian Democratic Alliance, from which the PFLP is absent.

8 Syrians Planned To Kill PLO Officials in London

JN311655 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Tunis — Press reports in Tunis reveal that the four Syrians who were expelled from London were preparing to assassinate the PLO office director in London and the head of the Palestine National Fund. The Tunisian paper *AL-SABAH* said today that the Syrians were arrested in London, and are members of an eight-person network. The other four escaped to the FRG. The paper explains that the members of this network arrived in London through France in order to carry out this mission, and that they were carrying diplomatic passports.

The paper adds that the PLO contributed in exposing and aborting this operation.

The British Home Office announced yesterday that four Syrians had been expelled from London after British police arrested them under the Prevention of Terrorism Act.

Ahmad Jibril Addresses PFLP-GC Graduation Class

JN312031 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The PFLP-GC held a ceremony today to mark the graduation of the Al-Baddawi massacre martyrs' class at the front's central training institute. The graduation ceremony was attended by Ahmad Jibril, PFLP-GC secretary general; Talal Naji, assistant PFLP-GC secretary general and PLO Executive Committee member; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member and official PLO spokesman; Fadl Shururu, secretary of the front's political office and its official spokesman; a number of members of the front's Central Committee; Dr Samir Ghawshah, secretary general of the Palestine Popular Struggle Front; a number of Palestinian revolution factions representatives; and a number of guests.

Following a tactical exercise by the graduates, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar delivered the Palestinian revolution's speech. He affirmed that the revolution will continue despite the conspiracies. He explained that the graduation ceremony was held in Syria, which supports Arab and Palestinian causes and which declared, through its militant leader Hafiz al-Asad at the opening of the Ba'th Party's Eighth Regional Congress, that the Palestinian issue is Syria's cause and that of every Syrian citizen and all Arab masses. Abu Mayzar praised President Hafiz al-Asad's stand. He said: President Hafiz al-Asad has been a leader who appreciates his responsibilities; he is a leader of this Arab-Israeli conflict because he shoulders his responsibilities in this steadfast country against the enemy, and because he defines

the responsibility of the Arab nation and the real strugglers. President al-Asad said that Syria is open to anyone who wants to struggle and fight against the imperialist-Zionist design. Abu Mayzar concluded his speech by saying: yes, to continuing the revolution and the battle of liberation; yes, to continuing opposition to Camp David, the Reagan plan, and the Jordanian initiative; and yes, to joining arms with the heroes of the Syrian Army and Lebanese nationalist resistance.

Ahmad Jibril delivered a speech in which he condemned 'Arafat's reactionary course, and strongly condemned the convocation of 'Arafat's divisionist council in Amman. He affirmed that as long as this rifle is not laid down, our revolutionaries' steadfastness will continue to be strong and cohesive by repulsing imperialist-Zionist-reactionary conspiracies on the basis of the great Syrian-Palestinian-nationalist Lebanese steadfastness. Jibril called for establishing a national Palestinian salvation front in order to rescue the Palestinian revolution and thwart the course of 'Arafat and his Central Committee.

Commentary Calls for Protecting S. Lebanon Camps

JN311334 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1632 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Reports from southern Lebanon say that a number of Lebanese isolationist forces have take up positions near Sidon in order to take control of the area after the withdrawal of the Israeli invasion forces. The subject of the Israeli withdrawal hides a very important issue for us: namely, the security of the Palestinian refugee camps, especially the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp which some isolationist militias are trying to get closer to.

Because we are fully aware of the isolationist forces concentrations near Sidon and the dangers of new massacres in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp, we urge all national forces in southern Lebanon to assume their revolutionary duty: namely, to protect the Palestinian refugee camps from new massacres, particularly since the blood of our people in Sabra and Shatila has not yet dried. We also call upon the Lebanese authorities to adopt the necessary measures in order to preserve the security of the Palestinian refugee camps.

The security and protection of these camps are the most important issue at this delicate stage during which Israel is implementing its withdrawal after giving its reserve agent tools in Lebanon the task of killing and slaughtering the innocent Palestinians who continuously provoke the Israelis.

Hence, we call upon all Arab and international organizations to support the call for U.N. protection of the Palestinian refugee camps. At the same time, we urge our kinfolk in the Palestinian camps to be always alert and vigilant for the scheme of the agent isolationist forces. The Arab countries are called upon to move in the international arena to insure international protection for the Palestinian camps in Lebanon from new catastrophes. If the Arab countries do not move at the appropriate time, they will be responsible for the consequences. History will never forgive any regime for its procrastination in adopting the correct stand whether out of good or bad intentions.

We warn and remind all of the Sabra and Shatila massacres, in the hope that their move, might, in some small way, help mitigate their responsibility through their dreadful silence for the crime of the age. We assert to the enemy killers that our people and revolutionaries will not remain silent in the face of any criminal attack against their existence and life. Armed resistance is their slogan which they will practice to defeat the killers.

Egypt-Jordan Ties, 'Arafat Visit to Egypt Viewed

PM311421 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 30 Jan-5 Feb 85 pp 12-13

[Unattributed report: "Egypt and Jordan Sign Security Agreement"]

[Excerpts] Paris — In the past 3 months, successive major developments have occurred between Egypt and Jordan, giving the impression that the two countries were about to take a big, albeit unclear step. *AL-MAJALLAH* has obtained an important document from knowledgeable Western sources indicating that there is much more than mere coordination between Egypt and Jordan; it is not just waving a stick in the face of the other bloc which threatens Egypt from the west, Jordan from the north, and the Palestinians from every direction and from all over the world.

The sources emphasize that the Egyptian-Jordanian contacts held openly and secretly prior to the restoration of relations between the two countries, in which Crown Prince Hasan and Chief of the Royal Court 'Adnan abu 'Awdah represented Jordan and a number of senior Egyptian officials led by presidential adviser Usamah al-Baz represented Egypt, laid the foundations of a strategic political and security agreement. They add that the broad lines of the agreement were approved during President Mubarak's visit to Aqaba, Jordan, in December.

The agreement, which some Egyptian and Jordanian officials like to call the "strategic cooperation agreement," includes the following articles projecting future Egyptian-Jordanian relations:

1. An Egyptian-Jordanian commitment to the Arab League's security and defense treaty, taking into consideration the fact that, at present, Egypt cannot take part in any confrontation with Israel because of its commitments under the Camp David agreement;

2. Full military coordination and a readiness by both sides to use armed force in the event of any threat to either of them, as well as joint military exercises;

3. A supply of Egyptian-made arms to Jordan as available;

4. Coordination and cooperation in security needs, the formation of a permanent council for that purpose, and the exchange of representatives to ensure such coordination; and

5. Expeditous formulation of a political concept covering Arab and international aspects and providing for consultation prior to any strategic steps.

The question is: Where do the Palestinians fit into all this?

The Western sources had nothing to say about that, but they pointed out that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will be visiting Cairo before President Mubarak's U.S. visit.

The same sources believe that 'Arafat will convey to the Egyptian president a complete view of the desired solution to the Palestinian problem, to be conveyed in turn by President Mubarak to President Reagan and other U.S. officials as part of the efforts to bring about a new U.S. initiative to settle the conflict in the region.

The sources believe that 'Arafat will repeat the points specified by the PNC during its November session in Amman to the Egyptian president, confirming rejection of UN Security Council Resolution 242, the Reagan plan, and any other plan that does not recognize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

According to Arab diplomatic sources, 'Arafat's visit to Egypt will take place soon and Egypt, in a demonstration of goodwill, intends to take a number of practical steps related to certain Palestinian issues such as allowing the transfer of the Palestinian research center to Cairo, allowing some of the Palestinian 'Ayn Jalut forces to be deployed in Egypt, and resolving certain problems connected with the admission of Palestinian students to Egyptian universities.

Fatah Claims Credit for Attack on Israeli Bus

JN311601 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Fatah Movement has stated that in confirmation of the movement's unwavering trend to escalate armed struggle against the Zionist enemy in the occupied homeland, the group of martyr 'Abdallah Khalil Abu Ziyad ambushed an enemy bus near Solomon's Pools near Bethlehem on the evening of 30 January 1985. The Al-'Asifah heroes took the bus by surprise, using machineguns and hand grenades. They completely destroyed the bus, killing or wounding all of its passengers.

The enemy forces cordoned off the area and besieged the nearby villages of Al-Khidr, Nahhalin, and Husan in an attempt to capture the revolutionaries, who managed to escape the cordon and return safely to base.

Israeli Vehicles Stoned Near Nabulus, Jericho

JN311844 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Palestinian citizens have stoned a Zionist bus which was carrying a number of Zionist settlers and soldiers while it was passing near Nabulus in the occupied West Bank. The windows of the Zionist bus were shattered, and a number of Zionists were critically injured. Palestinian citizens have also stoned a Zionist military vehicle while it was provocatively passing near Jericho. The windows of the Zionist vehicle were smashed and its occupants were critically injured.

Israeli Vehicle, W. Bank Settlement Attacked

JN311840 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1616 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] In accordance with the Revolution Command's directives and decisions on intensifying armed struggle inside the occupied homeland —the main arena of conflict —our valiant revolutionaries are escalating their heroic operations against the men and equipment of the Zionist occupation forces, inflicting further losses in life and equipment.

Our revolutionaries launched a machinegun and incendiary bomb attack yesterday against a Zionist military vehicle while it was passing near the Zionist Qiryat Arba' settlement near Hebron in the occupied West Bank. The vehicle was burned, and all of its occupants were either killed or wounded. In the attack yesterday against a Zionist settlement near Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank, a number of Zionists were either killed or wounded.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the two operations but, as usual, did not mention his losses. He said that his forces immediately carried out an extensive search, and arrested a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of being involved in the operations.

KUNA Explains Circumstances of OPEC Agreement

LD311724 Kuwait KUNA in English 1352 GMT 31 Jan 85

[By Mohammad Bakr]

[Text] Geneva, Jan 31 (KUNA) — Sources of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) said here Thursday [31 January] that although the agreement reached yesterday by OPEC oil ministers to narrow the price differentials for the various grades of crude oil was not approved by Iran, Algeria and Libya but developments on which that agreement has been based would lead to a unanimous implementation of that accord as a status quo.

The sources told KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY (KUNA) that the agreement reached yesterday was a collective one, disclosing that the stands of those three countries have radically changed since the start of the conference since they were completely against any change in the benchmark price of oil and advocating narrowing the gap by increasing the prices of heavy crudes.

The sources added that those countries were also insisting not to make any change in the price of light Arabian crude and in this case the heavy crudes would be in a position to compete at oil markets, while the light crudes will have a better rating.

The sources added that the heavy crude producers, with the overall interests of OPEC countries in mind, decided to make a sacrifice in order to preserve the unity of the organization and agreed to narrow the gap between prices. Nevertheless, the sources went on, the light crude producers put more pressure and demanded a higher price for the heavy crudes than it had been agreed on yesterday.

The other countries were in no position to accept such demand because it would lead to a convulsion in the accord approved by the majority and would widen the split and create difficulties because it would be impossibe for several countries to accept the price changes demanded by the three countries, the sources said.

Mexico To Maintain Autonomy in Oil Market

FL301448 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0230 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Geneva, 29 Jan (NOTIMEX) — Mexico's Secretary of Energy, Mines, and State Industry Francisco Labastida Ochoa has said that faced with the differences within OPEC, Mexico will maintain its autonomy and will continue to be an active member in the world petroleum market.

The Mexican official explained in a press interview that Mexico's independent position was due not to opposition to change, but that this position permits it to act in and defend its own interests.

At the end of the evening session of OPEC's 73d conference, Labastida Ochoa reiterated that Mexico's petroleum policy defends the crude market, thus defending its own interests. Nevertheless, he said that in the common interest of several countries, such as the OPEC members, consultation, solidarity, and support are of great importance.

Tehran: OPEC Decisions Weaken Organization

GF311942 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Unattributed commentary from "Behind the News" program]

[Text] In Geneva yesterday, the 37th ministerial OPEC conference was divided into two groups. The first group contained 13 states supporting a price reduction of $1 a barrel, thereby abandoning the previous price structure based on the standard Saudi light oil. The second group, consisting of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Libya, and Algeria, rejected the reduction. Gabon abstained. Without taking into consideration the stand of the opposing countries, the new price reduction is the first of its kind since 1981.

In line with the plot aimed at OPEC, the 1981 conference reduced the price of a barrel of oil from $34 to $29, in order to contain the crisis that was threatening OPEC's very existence. The current crisis, which has led to the new price reductions and approved by some sides, stems from OPEC's deep-rooted stands on production and price ceilings.

The upper limit of the world consumption of oil has not been more than 15 million bpd. However, until recently OPEC production was 17.5 million bpd, which was then reduced to 16 million bpd. If we add to that oil production from the North Sea, the Soviet Union, and the United States, a glut on the market will result. This surplus cannot be considered a normal state of affairs, but rather the result of a plot aimed at OPEC. The plot is based on confiscating OPEC's political certificate and reducing its oil prices. Some OPEC members have been collaborators in this plot — especially Saudi Arabia, when it appreciably raised its production.

In the past as at the present, Saudi Arabia has played a major role. Despite pressure from other OPEC members, Saudi Arabia refused to raise its heavy crude prices under the pretext of preserving close differences between light and heavy oils. While refusing this increase, it agreed with a number of other members to reduce its light oil prices by $1 a barrel, thereby forcing other OPEC members to face the consequences. This act will cause OPEC to lose $16 million per day in addition to its previous losses as a result of the last price reduction of $4 a barrel. This step will benefit Western industrial states and capitalist companies.

KUWAIT

Briefs

'Infiltrators' Arrested — The coast guard arrested 64 infiltrators on Saturday [26 January]. They arrived on board a ship and tried to get on shore at Al-Fintas. [Summary] [*Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 30 Jan 85 p 1 GF*]

OMAN

Loan Agreements With Banks Signed 30 Jan

GF311328 Manama WAKH in English 1650 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Two loan agreements were signed today between the Oman and the Gulf International Bank, Oman International Bank, and the National Bank of Oman [NBO], providing a facility of U.S. $400 million.

The first agreement provides a loan of U.S. $300 million and was signed on behalf of the Omani Government by Omani Deputy Prime Minister for Financial and Economic Affairs Qays ibn 'Abd al-Mun'im al-Zawawi and finance undersecretary Mohammad ibn Musa. Participating banks include the Gulf International Bank, Oman International Bank, the NBO, and a consortium of 36 local and international banks.

Offers to finance the loan facility far exceeded the U.S. $300 million mark due to Oman's good credit rating and reputation and the strength of its position in the world financial market. Under the second agreement, the Gulf International Bank, in cooperation with a number of international banks, will provide a U.S. $100 million Euronote facility for Oman.

Briefs

Assistant Chief of Defense Staff — Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id has issued Edict No 16/85 promoting Brigadier General Hamid ibn Sa'id ibn Muhammad al-'Awfi to the rank of major general, and also appointing him assistant chief of defense staff for operations. [Summary] [*Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 31 Jan 85 GF*]

QATAR

Amir Receives Message From Sudanese President

GF311623 Manama WAKH in English 1525 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 31 Jan (WAKH) — H.H. the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received a written message from Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri dealing with bilateral relations and means of promoting them. The message was delivered by Secretary of the Sudanese People's Organizations Committee Dr Muhammad Osman Abu Saq during his meeting with the amir of Qatar here today. The audience was attended by Qatari Health Minister Khalid Muhammad al-Mani, and Sudanese ambassador to Qatar.

SAUDI ARABIA

Sudanese Information Minister Arrives 31 Jan

LD312124 Riyadh SPA in English 1909 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 31., SPA — 'Ali Muhammad Shammu, the Sudanese information and culture minister, who is also a representative of the Arab Committee for the Utilization of Space, arrived here tonight on a visit to Saudi Arabia as part of his current tour of the region.

He was greeted at the airport by undersecretary for information affairs, Dr Fuad Farsi; posts, telephones and telegraphs undersecretary for operation and maintenance, Fuad Abu Mansur; and director general of Arabsat Organization 'Ali al-Mashatt.

Riyadh Commentator on OPEC Price Agreement

GF010626 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Husayn al-'Askari commentary from the "News and Comment" program]

[Text] The majority of OPEC countries has reached agreement on price differentials which will improve the world oil market and prevent a price war between the OPEC countries and oil-producing countries outside the organization.

Observers agree that the OPEC countries' agreement on price differentials is a good step by which these countries have shown that they are able to face the challenges and that they still maintain control over oil market developments.

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has forecast a gradual increase in the demand for oil during the next few months. Observers believe that the agreement, reached by a majority of OPEC countries, will lead to a certain amount of stability in the world oil market. This agreement has also forced the British National Petroleum Corporation to announce that it would review its prices in view of the OPEC agreement. The corporation saw in such a step a remarkable success by the OPEC countries to control the world oil market.

The fact that 9 of 13 members reached an agreement does not mean there is a difference of opinion in OPEC, as some sources have suggested. On the contrary, it means that the general good of the producing countries has been given preference. Plurality in opinions, if there is such a trend, is a healthy phenomenon, and a natural development, fulfilling the general good of oil-producing countries. All OPEC countries want to achieve this goal.

The only reason motivating a review in oil prices is the decreased demand for types of light oil and the rise in the demand for heavy crude because of its lower price. Furthermore, advanced technical means now exist which can make heavy crude usable with the same efficiency. This development has forced experts to believe that light-oil producing countries will have difficulties in

marketing their oil at a price higher than that of the world market because most OPEC countries agreed to lower the price of super light oil at rates reaching $1.25 per barrel. In this respect, observers laud Saudi Arabia's stand in agreeing that OPEC give up the old pricing formula based on the expensive Saudi light crude. OPEC countries now have more flexibility and can lower the price of heavy crude about 50 cents per barrel, as compared with the former price of $29 per barrel.

Observers believe that the OPEC countries' narrowing of the gap between the prices of the two crudes will prevent a price war between OPEC and oil-producing countries outside the organization. OPEC has won the round.

UAE

Mexican President Makes Stopover Visit 31 Jan

GF311359 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Dubayy, 31 Jan (WAM) — Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado stopped for an hour today at Dubayy International Airport on his way home from New Delhi, following his participation in the meeting on nuclear disarmament between the two superpowers which was held in the Indian capital.

YAR

PDRY Officials Arrive in Sanaa, Make Statement

GF311417 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state for cabinet affairs, and Brother Lieutenant Colonel 'Abd al-Wasi' Sallam, deputy minister of interior, arrived in Sanaa today. They left Aden this morning.

In a statement to ANA, Brother 'Ushaysh said that he was carrying a message from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to his brother, 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the country, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland. He said the message concerns the results of the sixth session of the Supreme Yemeni Council and the recent meetings of the two leaders in Aden and Ta'izz. He said the two leaders have been exerting true brotherly efforts in order to achieve the national unity of the Yemeni people and territory.

Message Conveyed to President

GF311812 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received at the presidency today Brother Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state in the southern part of the homeland, who conveyed to him a message from his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland. The message deals with consultation and coordination on issues concerning the two parts.

The meeting was attended by Brother Yahya al-'Arshi, minister of state for unity affairs, and Brother 'Abd al-Wasi' Sallam, deputy interior minister in the southern part of the homeland.

Joint Meeting With Soviet Economic Officials Held

GF311820 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The meeting of the Yemeni-Soviet joint committee for discussing the means for implementing the economic, trade, and technical agreements signed between the two countries during the visit of Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, to the Soviet Union last October was held at the building of the central organ for planning today.

The Yemeni side is led by engineer Mushin Hamdani, deputy minister of public works. The Soviet side is led by Petr Mokiyevskiy, chief of the department of economic cooperation with Near East countries at the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

SABA' NEWS AGENCY has learned that during the meetings — which were opened by engineer Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayd, minister of development and head of the central planning organ — a number of economic issues contained in the named agreements will be discussed.

Al-Baz on Mubarak U.S. Visit, Tabah Talks

NC311256 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA) — Dr Usmah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the presidential office for political affairs, following a meeting held by President Mubarak today, said that Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, submitted comprehensive reports on the various aspects of cooperation between Egypt and the United States.

Dr Al-Baz said that it is natural that President Mubarak's visit to the United States should be preceded by precise preparation in political, economic, and other areas. During the meeting, agreement was reached on the broadlines that Egypt will follow in its contacts with U.S. officials from now and until the end of the visit.

Asked if Egypt will ask for the usual [taqlidiyah] aid from the United States, Dr al-Baz said that we have our reasons for asking for this aid. He said that the amount of this aid is contingent on the situation in the area. He added that we will submit our requests to the United States regardless of any liabilities or considerations that have nothing to do with these specific requests.

Regarding Egypt's stand on the reports that Israel is opposed to the sale of U.S. arms to certain Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia, Dr al-Baz said that we believe that these objections have no foundation, because Saudi Arabia and the other Arab countries that obtain arms from the United States, in one way or another, support the peace policy and peace initiatives in the region. There is no doubt but that these countries' needs are legal and for self-defense. It has been proven that these arms have not been used for aggression.

Answering a question about the Tabah talks, Dr al-Baz said we know that the Tabah talks were practically confined to one particular point, but involve the issue as a whole. We still hope that more progress will be made. We had hoped that more progress would have been made, but we will look for possibilities for future progress, because we want [word indistinct] to decisively settle this issue so that we can devote our efforts to solving other issues regarding the situation in the area, and to the need to broaden the framework of peace and bilateral relations. He said that the date for a new round of meetings has not yet been fixed, because this depends on our assessment of the other party's readiness to respond. As we have said, the goal is to decisively settle this issue. We believe that the appropriate method for settlement is to refer it to arbitration instead of continuing to allow the differences to exist.

Ghali Outlines 1 Feb Mubarak-Nyerere Talks

NC010913 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0825 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, following a session of talks between President Husni Mubarak and Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, said that the talks dealt with African solidarity, and the importance of convening the forthcoming African summit conference in Addis Ababa scheduled for June or July. He said that the talks also dealt with economic relations among the African countries and Egypt's role in offering technical assistance to African countries through experts working both in the Arab countries and Africa. He said that the talks touched on the issue of disarmament, since Nyerere participated in the disarmament conference in Athens, and on the disarmament declaration issued in New Delhi, which advocated the importance of disarmament.

Ghali Reports to Mubarak on African Tour

NC311514 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, said after meeting President Husni Mubarak today that he submitted a report to the president on his African tour. Ghali visited the Ivory Coast, Mali, and Senegal.

Dr Ghali added that he delivered verbal messages to President Mubarak from the leaders of those countries in reply to the president's messages to them. Dr Ghali also gave the president an appraisal of current relations between Egypt and Senegal, Mali, and the Ivory Coast.

Dr Ghali described Egyptian-African relations as excellent, and said: We are now preparing for the Addis Ababa conference, which will take place at the end of February and feature a discussion of Africa's economic problems.

Ghali noted that he reviewed economic cooperation between Egypt and each of the countries he visited during his tour, and discussed the Chadian question as well. He said: Our position on this issue is clear. We support the Chadian Government and the principles of territorial integrity and noninterference in its internal affairs.

He added that his talks touched on the Western Sahara question, now that the Saharan Republic has been admitted to the OAU. His talks also dealt with the Namibian question and the liquidation of colonialism there. According to Dr Ghali, the problem that most concerns the presidents, prime ministers, and foreign ministers he met with is Africa's economic crisis, which is a result of drought and indebtedness.

'Abd al-Majid Discusses Upcoming U.S. Tour, Tabah

NC311535 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid will tour Britain, the United States, and France beginning on Saturday. He reported that he will hold talks with the British, U.S., and French foreign ministers, and will brief them on developments in the Middle East and on efforts that could be undertaken in the near futureto give impetus to the peace process. He added that his talks will also involve Egypt's relations with the three countries.

Meanwhile, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the Tabah talks were constructive and fruitful, adding that agreement was reached on a number of points. He said that Egypt is currently studying the

report on the talks submitted by its delegation, adding that the Tabah issue will head the list of topics to be discussed with U.S. officials, particularly since there is a standing U.S. interest in the issue.

Finally, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt will explain its stand to the U.S. officials on the need to refer the Tabah issue to international arbitration.

Labor Agreement Signed With Jordan 31 Jan

NC010705 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 31 Jan (MENA) — Today, Egypt and Jordan signed an agreement for cooperation in the field of manpower. The agreement provides for equal rights and responsibilities for workers from both countries. Workers of both countries will have the right to transfer their savings in accordance with existing laws and financial regulations. The agreement also stipulates that the appropriate authorities in each country should facilitate the employment of workers coming from the other country. This is what *AL-AHRAM* reports in tomorrow's edition.

The agreement, to last 3 years, was signed by Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, Egypt's minister of manpower and training; and Dr Taysir 'Abd al-Jabir, Jordanian minister of labor and social development. It provides for the exchange of information, expertise, and training in the fields of occupational training, social insurance, industrial security, manpower planning, and social development.

The agreement also stipulates that in case of employee-employer disputes, a complaint should be filed with the appropriate authorities, in accordance with the existing laws, and, if the dispute is not settled cordially, the case should be referred to the legal authorities.

According to the agreement, a joint coordination committee will be formed to iron out any difficulties that may crop up as the agreement is implemented.

Commentaries Analyze Positions on Tabah Issue

Israel's Stance Questioned

NC311528 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Muhammad Sharaf commentary: "Israel's Stand on Peace in Light of Its Stand on the Tabah Issue"]

[Text] The talks in Beersheba between Egypt and Israel, with U.S. participation, dealing with the Egyptian territory of Tabah, ended on Tuesday. Following these talks we can offer some remarks both on the Tabah issue and on Israel's general stand on peace in the Middle East.

First, the Tabah issue and Israel's stand are an extremely important issue for Egypt; an Israeli decision to withdraw from Tabah or its acceptance of arbitration would constitute a significant change in its policy and be evidence of its good intentions and sincere desire to open the dossier on peace in the Middle East, particularly in terms of the Palestinian cause, which is the core of the Middle East conflict.

No one expects this change to take place quickly. However, what matters is that peace efforts be resumed in the area in a practical way.

Second, Israel's current position on the various aspects of the Middle East problem is characterized by a stalemate, or even a negative view, on the Palestinian issue. Israel is forging ahead with its policy of settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, although it is aware that this renders the establishment of peace in the Middle East impossible. There is no harm in repeating some well-known facts in this context, primarilythat Egypt, the only Arab state linked with Israel by a peace treaty, will never accept any borders other than those that applied before 5 June 1967.

Third, it is astonishing that despite its knowledge of this fact, Israel is proceeding with its settlement policy. This stand forces us to wonder whether Israel is really interested in securing peace in the Middle East. It is also a fact that many observers seriously doubt Israel's intentions in this regard.

Fourth, in terms of the situation in Lebanon, daily events indicate that Israel is not serious about its withdrawal plan, although it announced that it will withdraw in three stages. Many observers confirm that Israel does not intend to implement a genuine withdrawal from Lebanon. To achieve its goal, Israel is trying to drive a wedge into efforts to achieve national reconciliation in Lebanon, in a bid to impose indirect control over southern Lebanon.

In light of all this, we must realize that the situation in the Middle East urgently requires that Israel demonstrate is good intentions toward the establishment of a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the area. At any rate, initiative in the area does not rest with Israel alone. Rather, the Arab states can engage in positive action that would change the balance, if they can only overcome their differences and unify their ranks.

Egypt's Position Reiterated

NC010715 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0520 GMT 1 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Tabah Is Egyptian and There Is No Room for Bargaining," *AL-AHRAM*, in the "Opinion Column" affirms that Tabah is Egyptian and will remain Egyptian. Egypt will never permit this spot of Egypt's pure land to become a subject for bargaining or barter. Despite this, Egypt went to the Beersheba talks with an open heart and mind in hope of finding open hearts and minds that accept dialogue, resort to logic, and arbitrate the documents of history and records of geography.

AL-AHRAM says that since the final communique on the Beersheba talks pointed out that this round of talks narrowed the differences between Egypt and Israel on the Tabah issue, and

that a draft agreement was reached on the tasks that the multinational force could discharge, if it is decided to station it there. What stands out is the continued intransigence by the Israeli side over three basic points. The Egyptian side will not accept the Israeli views on these basic points under any circumstances. The paper notes these differences which pertain to Israel's rejection of Egypt's request to withdraw the Israeli forces from Tabah. The second difference is Israel's rejection of Egypt's request to refer this dispute to arbitration. The third point of disagreement revolves around Israel's introduction of other secondary issues into the talks, such as the search for the bodies of missing Israeli soldiers during the October war, and the issue of strengthening relations between the two countries.

Concluding its article, *AL-AHRAM* emphasizes that the Egyptian position is still constructive and positive as it agrees to hold another round of talks to give the Israeli side an opportunity to reconsider its intransigent stands, on which the future spirit and pillars of peace in the region depend.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM Denounces More U.S. Aid to Israel
NC010829 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0730 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 1 Feb (MENA) — The newspaper *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* denounces the increase in U.S. military aid to Israel from $1.4 to $1.8 billion as of the beginning of next year. The paper wonders if this increase is a blessing [mubarakah] for Israel's recent positions, which put the U.S. credibility vis-a-vis the moderate countries in the Middle East to the test.

The paper points to the failure of the Al-Naqurah talks between Lebanon and Israel because of Israel's failure to respond to the Lebanese demands, primarily the drafting of a specific timetable for the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon. The paper also refers to the Israeli Government's approval for the construction of six new settlements in the occupied West Bank despite U.S. intervention and appeals by U.S. officials, especially by President Reagan. Concluding its commentary, the paper asks what positive step the Israeli Government has taken to deserve this reward.

Army Spokesman Delineates Iranian Offensive

JN010754 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0703 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God Almighty has willed that the Iranian rulers should be punished for their crimes and for their insistence on a policy of aggression. We have always advised these ignorant rulers to stop this folly, return to the right path, and accept the call of truth and the voice of peace in order to spare the blood of their people and their resources. However, these rulers are consumate evildoers; they insist on aggression. Iraq, however, which is adhering to God's path and defending its freedom, sovereignty, and the dignity of its people with unprecedented courage, will remain the impregnable fortress that will dissipate their dreams and crush their brains and intentions.

Thus, at 0330 today, the frustrated ones gathered their remnant forces, and attacked the positions of the heroic 606th Brigade of the 16th Division's formation in the 2d Army Corps sector. The 606th forces confronted them with rightful, violent Iraqi firepower.

At 0630 our forces foiled the enemy's offensive and completely destroyed its forces. The enemy forces were transformed into heaps of ashes. The remaining few fled, leaving their wepaons behind. Thus, the battle was decided in our forces' favor in a final manner. We greet the proud Iraqis and congratulate the heroes of the 606th Brigade and all of the 2d Army Corps men on this new blessed victory. We wish you more new victories. Praise be to God, he is the best supporter.

[Dated] 1 February 1985

Al-Jaburi Comments on 31 Jan Offensive

JN011029 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0836 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Feb (INA) — The commander of the 16th Division, Brigadier General 'Abd Mutlaq al-Jaburi, has revealed three main factors that led to his forces' success in occupying new positions on the central sector front yesterday. In press statements published here today, the commander said that the three factors are: a perfect firepower plan, complete mobilization plan, and very high morale.

This he added, conforms to our methods of an active rather than a passive, stationary defense. He said that his forces, represented by the 606th Brigade, controlled areas that overlook the two sides. They consist of slopes and craggy rocks called the Al-'Aysh area. He said that mortars, field guns, and various caliber weapons, as well as an entire battle group had been present there.

The commander noted that the Iraqi attack destroyed the enemy forces in that area and that the Iraqi forces began entrenching themselves, building fortifications, and counting enemy losses.

Communique No 1,728 Issued on 30-31 Jan Operations

JN311830 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Communique No 1,728 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 31 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our patient Iraqi people, who are fighting for their sovereignty and the happiness of their sons, will continue to spread good, repulse evil, champion justice, combat falsehoods, provide prosperity, remove misery, and safeguard peace under President Saddam Husayn, the knight of the nation, the one who is shaping its glory, and the emblem of its loftiness in the era of great transformations, may God preserve him. These people deserve God's blessings, support, and assistance; they will continue to be admired by people, and to be a model of struggle and construction.

The Iraqi people's Armed Forces will continue translating the determination of a people who do not tire or miss the target when repulsing evil and those practicing evil, and will continue dispelling the spirit of barbarism and fending off its evil, so that these evils may befall its owners, the Iranian rulers. Glory to our great people and our victorious leader. Blessed be the soldiers of righteousness and the heroes of epics. The following is a roundup of the activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In reply to the intransigence of the Tehran rulers and their insistence on prolonging the war and, in order to cut the clique of destruction down to size, to demonstrate the impotence and defeat of this clique, to announce Iraq's superiority and its decisive victory, to ward off danger from the borders of the homeland of love, and to implement the directives of our inspired leader, units from our Armed Forces began a sweeping and destructive attack on the night of 30-31 January against enemy forces opposite the front of the 16th Division's 606th Brigade, which is in the 2d Army Corps operational sector. This attack implemented the command's plan to occupy predetermined targets whose depth had been previously defined. An exemplary battle with high morale took place in terms of planning, meticulous performance, and cooperation among all forces. During the battle, the sons of the Euphrates vied with one another to perform an effective role and to have the honor of excelling. Our forces succeeded in crushing the remnants of falsehood and quickly finishing them off in their own positions. Only those who fled or surrendered escaped certain death. Our forces took up positions in their new locations, proud of their victory. Glory to the soldiers, officers, NCO's, and commanders. Loftiness to all of our Armed Forces' sons in every battlefield. Praise be to God.

2. The fighter aircraft of our Air Froce poured lofty Iraq's fury on the defeated remnants of the Khomeyniite regime in the 3d Army Corps operational sector, inflicting heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy. All of our aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to God. Our aircraft carried out 24 combat missions today.

3. Our helicopter gunships carried out daring and successful sorties against eight enemy troop concentrations in the operational sector east of Basra, striking and destroying them. All of

our helicopter gunships returned safely and triumphantly, praise be to God. In another area of the same sector, our forward units used artillery and mortars to pound fortified enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles, destroying two vehicles, one observation post, two enemy machinegun positions, and one medium caliber machinegun. Our forward units also killed one enemy element.

4. Three enemy positions were destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

5. Escaping the oppression of the clique of evil ruling Iran, new groups of Iranian military sought refuge with our forward units in the northern sector of the battlefield, and were safely evacuated to the rear.

6. The criminal enemy shelled several civilian areas in the Basra suburbs yesterday evening with heavy artillery. As a result of the ennemy shelling, two civilians and one woman were wounded, and two houses were demolished.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 31 January 1985

President Orders Release of Iranian Prisoners

JN311737 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1713 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, we have just received the following: An official Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated that President Leader Saddam Husayn has ordered the following: In confirmation of our principles — due to the fact that our primary foe, who is responsible to the Iranian people and the world for his policy of continued aggression against Iraq, is the ruling regime in Tehran — and in view of additional tangible evidence, we have ascertained that the Iranian people do not want war against Iraq and that they are forcibly driven to the death mill by the criminal Khomeyni. This has been confirmed by the first group of Iranian prisoners of war who fell into the Iraqi forces' hands in the heroic 27-28 January 1985 operation of the heroic 3d Army Corps. This group was included in our amnesty decision. Today, after our heroic forces in the 2d Army Corps have accomplished their successful mission against the enemy remnants, a group of the misled were captured. In view of these prisoners' rejection of war, we have decided to release the prisoners who were captured today, 31 January 1985; to hand them over to representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross; and to give them the choice of staying in Iraq, leaving for any country, or returning to Iran.

3d Army Corps Commander Speaks on 28 Jan Battles

JN310910 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0624 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA) — The commander of Iraq's 3d Army Corps has stated that after last Monday's battle, the Iraqi forces are in control of extremely important military positions. In a statement to *AL-QADISIYAH* newspaper published today, the commander added that the corps' units are currently consolidating their gains, fortifying their positions, and taking complete control of the area.

The commander pointed out that the southern sector battle, which followed a three-pronged Iraqi offensive, was carried out with exemplary combat performance and in record time, which will have adverse phsycological and morale effects on the Iranian enemy and its collapsing forces.

On the Iranian forces' attempt to regain their lost positions, the commander said that these forces launched many attacks but most of the attacking forces were wiped out. Very few of them returned, he added.

Finance Minister Views Foreign Economic Ties

PM311017 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 30 Jan 85 p 5

[Report on interview with Iraqi Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq al-Yawir by *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Gulf Bureau: "Iraq Completes Requirements of Export Pipeline to Red Sea" — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Iraqi Finance Minister Hisham Hasan Tawfiq al-Yawir stressed the importance of the fraternal ties between his country and the GCC countries. Al-Yawir described these relations as good and developing: They are governed by bilateral agreements concluded through the joint standing committees that exist between Iraq and the Gulf states. Al-Yawir, who headed his country's delegation to the talks at the joint committee for economic cooperation between Iraq and the UAE, said that these relations are continually improving.

The Iraqi minister said that his country has completed the requirements of building an oil pipeline across Saudi Arabian territory for oil export through the Red Sea ports and that it is seeking to complete arrangements for financing another oil pipeline through the Jordanian port of Aqaba.

The Iraqi Minister denied reports that Iraq has obtained financial aid from the United States or that Iraq intends to obtain such aid following the resumption of diplomatic relations.

Speaking about the economic situation in Iraq, al-Yawir said that Iraq's debts are not large; they are less than the present level in some of the developing and Arab countries that are not in a state of war as Iraq is. He added: We are confident that these debts are within the Iraqi economy's ability to honor its commitments.

He added: "These debts are not of much significance in a world that is interlinked, especially financially. I would not say that Iraq does not have debts, but these debts are known to be within normal bounds."

Al-Yawir said that the Arab political attitude toward the Iraq-Iran war has become better than it used to be since the true picture of this war has become clear as a result of the Iranian attitude toward the various international efforts to halt the war. This has led to the emergence of a clear and strong Arab stand to deal with the situation.

He stressed that Arab support for Iraq will help it to determine the situation within a shorter period of time than expected at present and that this support will have a greater effect on the political attitude of the other countries toward this war. He stressed the soundness of the Iraqi military position and the availability of Iraqi resources that would make Iraq feel confident of its capabilities.

Al-Yawir said that the U.S. attitude has become more understanding of the Iraq-Iran war and that this attitude is finding expression in statements about the war by U.S. officials. He expressed the hope that the United States will shoulder its responsibility as a superpower with a view to ending the war either directly or through its friends, particularly the European countries.

The Iraqi minister noted that the Japanese attitude has become more understanding of the developments and implications of the war and of Japan's dealing with Iran, particularly with regard to importing Iranian oil and the implementation of industrial projects in Iran. This change, he stressed, is primarily due to the efforts of the Arab seven-man committee which made it clear during the visit to Tokyo by the Iraqi and Kuwaiti foreign ministers, that the Japanese attitude does not serve Arab-Japanese relations. He said: However, the situation still calls for more Arab pressure because the Japanese stand will be affected by the continuity and effectiveness of Arab pressure.

Oil Minister Reviews OPEC Conference Results
JN312110 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2000 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi has described the recent OPEC ministerial conference results as a step forward on the road to restoring stability to the world oil market, even though these results were not unanimously adopted. In a statement to the INA correspondent in Geneva today, after attending the emergency OPEC conference that concluded yesterday, Taqi said that this conference tackled the price differentials issue far better than the previous conference, and that it will inevitably lead to more stability in the world oil market. The Iraqi minister said that the conference's resolutions are final and not temporary, and that no OPEC emergency conference will convene unless new developments occur on the market. He added that these decisions will remain valid until OPEC's ordinary conference convenes this July.

The Iraqi minister said that Iraq prefers unanimity in OPEC decisions, in order to defend OPEC's official price of $29. However, it was not possible to maintain the price structure, and the best thing that could be reached was yesterday's agreement to fix Arab heavy crude prices at $26.50 — a price that has been in practice since the last meeting — and light crude prices at $28.90. The Iraqi minister said that caution and alertness must be exercised to protect the OPEC countries' interests. He also said that no decisions on reducing prices in one form or the other must be made under the excuse of oil market pressures. He said that OPEC must not be tied down to the market, as this will harm everyone's interests; that OPEC must lead the market; and that everyone must work for this objective.

Taqi said that Iraq opposes any reduction of official prices, because such reductions mean a decrease in revenues and circumstances in the market do not favor this.

Trade Minister Receives GDR Official 31 Jan
JN311320 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA) — Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister, received Dr Dieter Albrecht, deputy chairman of the GDR State Planning Commission, and his accompanying delegation here today.

During the meeting, trade and economic and relations between the two friendly countries were reviewed. Preparations were made during the meeting for the convocation of the 10th session of the Iraqi-GDR joint committee for economic and technical cooperation to be held in Berlin during the second half of this year.

Ambassador in Finland Dies of Heart Attack
JN311150 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1104 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 31 Jan (INA) — The death of Salih Ahdi 'Ammash, former RCC member and ambassador to Finland, was announced in Baghdad today. In a statement, the president's office mourned the demise of 'Ammash, who died in his office in Helsinki last night following a heart attack.

Salih Mahdi 'Ammash was defense minister in 1963. After the 1968 revolution, he was appointed interior minister and then vice president. 'Ammas then became ambassador to Moscow, Paris, and Helsinki respectively.

Staff General Salih Mahdi 'Ammash has written books on literature and military affairs.

King Husayn Returns from Iraq 31 Jan

JN311400 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 JAN 85

[Excerpt] Amman —His Majesty King Husayn returned to Amman at noon today after a 2-day visit to fraternal Iraq. During the visit, his majesty held talks with President Saddam Husayn on the main Arab issues, the Arab stand in light of current developments in the Arab and international arenas, and ways of strengthening and developing cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

House Asked to Denounce U.S. Aid to Israel

JN311542 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Amman, 31 Jan (PETRA) — The House of Representatives ended its second ordinary session by holding its 15th meeting today under Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz. A number of ministers attended the meeting.

A House member proposed that a statement be issued denouncing statements made by the official U.S. Government spokesman, who said that the U.S. Government has agreed to increase its aid to Israel. The House referred the proposal to the Foreign Affairs Committee for discussion.

Parliament Supports King's Views on Media

JN010958 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Amman, PETRA — House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz has sent the following cable to His Majesty King Husayn:

It honors me to send to your exalted office the thanks, appreciation, and praise of the members of the House of Representatives in regard to your noble message of guidance to his excellency the prime minister on the need to maintain our genuine customs and traditions, and to preserve our national institutions without allowing the media to harm or slander them, which would not serve our supreme national interests. May God keep you as guardian of the noble Arab personality and supporter of your faithful Jordanian family and the glorious Arab nation.

Karami on Nation's Problem, Israeli Withdrawals
NC311624 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami indicated in a press interview today that the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon would resolve three-quarters of Lebanon's problems, with the remaining quarter to be resolved by an understanding on the provisions of the government policy statement.

The prime minister said that differences between prominent political figures in the country was healthy, and that a constructive opposition was one of the main features of a sound democratic system.

The prime minister pointed out that there was general agreement on the fact that a solution of the Lebanese crisis would pave the way for a basic solution to the Middle East conflict.

Prime Minister Karami declared that the authority of the state could only be fully restored once militias and armed groups were no longer on the scene.

Birri on South Lebanon, Beirut Security
PM311709 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 30 Jan-5 Feb 85 pp 18-19

[Interview with Justice and Southern Lebanon Affairs Minister and Amal movement leader Nabih Birri by Zaki Shihab in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Shihab] Will the coastal road be reopened or not?

[Birri] As you know, the president has visited Damascus. Judging by the information I have, and what President al-Jumayyil has told me, the coastal plan was the main topic in his talks with President al-Asad. I had a telephone conversation with him after his return from Damascus. What he told me indicates a more positive atmosphere regarding the coastal plan, as well as the next plan for the Beirut-Damacus road, which will come into effect a few days after the coastal plan. The atmosphere is actually encouraging, but because of what happened in the past, I am still very cautious on this matter, because of our past experience.

[Shihab] Do you believe that the reopening of the coastal road would speed up the liberation process?

[Birri] The coastal road is tantamount to an artery linking the heart to the brain. It is not a target in itself. It is a way of reaching the south. Its reopening would weaken the continuous Israeli threat that partial withdrawals would, as in the case of the mountains, result in massacres. In my view, the reopening of the road would put an end to the Lebanese war — the artillery shelling and the destruction — and it would pave the way for the reopening of the entire political reform file. What is more important, the reopening of the road would deprive Israel of its most important excuse — Lebanese-Lebanese differences over the security of the south. All this would put Israel on the spot, and would defuse the threat of inter-Lebanese sectarian massacres in the [Al-Kharrub] region and the south.

[Shihab] Assuming that the plan is put into effect on schedule, do you expect Israel to abort it or prevent its implementation?

[Birri] Israel has been obstructing things and will continue to do so. The Lebanese, particularly those who cooperate with Israel, are requested to sever their links with it, and prove their true Lebanese identity. I predict that even if the Lebanese Army reached the Al-Awwali River, the road will remain closed, but even that would be an achievement in itself.

[Shihab] Have you asked the influential states, such as the United States and others, to put pressure on Israel to ensure that there is no obstruction?

[Birri] I personally base my actions on the national will, not on intervention. Of course, the Syrian Government is giving us tremendous support in this connection.

[Shihab] What about your relations with Minister Junblatt?

[Birri] There are calculated insinuations on this matter. I recall that in the early days of the Cabinet, he and I used to ride in the same car, turn on the radio, and listen to claims about serious differences between us. Our interests lie in unity. My alliance with Walid Junblatt and the nationalist forces is alive and unbreakable. One would only have to look at what happened in the mountains and the suburb to understand that.

[Shihab] Walid Junblatt has said that, as Muslim ministers, you have made no gains so far.

[Birri] That is what I said. True, we have achieved nothing.

[Shihab] Do you consider the current southern unity to be a guarantee against the fear of sectarian massacres, in the event of a sudden Israeli withdrawal?

[Birri] All the Lebanese people should emulate the south. The southerners are acting on the grounds that they are facing a common enemy. They resist its methods and arrogance with all available means. There is absolutely no fear of sectarian incidents after a partial or total Israeli withdrawal.

[Shihab] You no longer provide a cover for armed action inside Beirut, but Amal gunmen are still roaming the streets. What is your opinion?

[Birri] I am not trying to defend the movement or put it above others, but looking at the facts on the ground, you must have noticed to what extent the Amal movement has shrunk on the ground and to what extent it has disciplined itself. But in certain cases, such as an explosion or a move of some kind, we must resist. It is a kind of self-defense. We must stand together to succeed. The aim is to defend the security of the citizens and the people living in Beirut.

I have declared that as a movement, we leave the question of security to the Internal Security Forces and the Lebanese Army. You know that Amal's security and military offices have all been closed, and their activities suspended. Now, they only participate in social activities. It is no secret that some of my aides have been

detained and sentenced by military courts for carrying arms. I still say that we provide no cover for those who break the law in Beirut.

[Shihab] How do you view the reports that Israel intends to build a settlement in the south?

[Birri] We say that this proves Israel's expansionist intentions and scheme to turn southern Lebanon into a "north bank."

The south was never a land without people for Israel to build settlements on.

Such a step would make us think about other things to do with shaking the security of Galilee.

Birri on Israeli 'Conspiracy'

NC311620 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1510 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Minister of State Nabih Birri today outlined the Israeli conspiracy against the south and against Lebanon during a lecture on the subject of the liberation of south Lebanon at the American University Alumni Club. The lecture and the discussions which followed were sponsored by the development study seminar.

In his detailed presentation, the minister of state said that development plans were being drawn up for the occupied land, which would be initiated as soon as Israel withdrew. The plans involve the rebuilding of the infrastructure and the introduction of new industries.

Minister Birri outlined details of the Israeli plot against Lebanon, which is deliberately designed to maintain its grip on substantial sections of the south and of west Al-Biqa'.

He pointed out that no withdrawal program had been presented and that the withdrawal from Sidon was designed as a trap to the Lebanese Government. He stressed, however, that the government had managed to cope and insisted on a full program of withdrawals.

VOL on Cancellation of Sha'ban's Iran Visit

NC311609 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban [leader of the Islamic Unification Movement] has issued a statement on the cancellation of his visit to Iran, scheduled to begin today. According to the statement, health reasons are behind the cancellation.

It has been learned, however, that the true reason is not one of health. Shaykh Sha'ban was prevented from crossing the Syrian border on his way to Tehran, and was informed that he was an undesirable person.

Consequently, Shaykh Sha'ban returned to Tripoli and issued the statement that his visit was canceled for health reasons.

Western Embassy Expects Palestinian Clashes

NC010750 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that some Western embassies have sent reports to their governments on the future situation in south Lebanon, in light of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sidon region. A report sent by the embassy of a Western country said that none of the Christian or the Islamic sects in the above-mentioned region intend to resort to arms or to carry out actions that will harm the general security in the south, particularly in the Sidon region.

However, the same report carried information that indicates the possibility of bloody inter-Palestinian clashes inside the Palestinian camps. The report said that the Syrians have categorically rejected the deployment of UN forces in the positions to be evacuated by the Israeli forces in Sidon. The Syrians' position is that the deployment of UN forces at the camps' entrances will allow 'Arafat's loyalists to rebuild their military and political structure in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and al-Miyahwa Miyah camps, particularly at a time when Palestinian struggles and differences on the nature of the coming stage have gone too far.

In addition to this, the report indicated that the followers of Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] are preparing to enter the camps in the Sidon region. There are two groups of them, estimated to be 350 gunmen, who will enter the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and al-Miyahwa Miyah camps immediately after the completion of the Israeli withdrawal. The report went on to say that clashes among the Palestinians themselves will most probably result from this entry. These clashes might affect the safety of civilians in the camps, and thus they might be forced to move south, probably toward Al-Bisariyah to seek shelter in some of the facilities there.

The Israeli military authorities will then facilitate their evacuation and will assist them, under the spotlight of international media coverage, so that Israel will appear to the world as the protector of civilian Palestinians from the armed Palestinian organizations. Israel will thus eradicate its image formed by the world public opinion following the invasion and the Sabra and Shatilla incidents.

The report prepared by the embassy of a major Western country added that Israel is to a certain extent behind the liquidation of those who have collaborated with it in many areas of the south. The report supported this by giving names and figures, but did not mention any reason for Israel's action.

Israeli Targets Attacked in Southern Region

NC311245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Lebanese national resistance fighters' operations have been escalating, confirming the fighters determination to liberate the land from the Israeli enemy and his agents. The latest operation was carried out at 0750 today when a national resistance group attacked an occupation forces' position on the Sayniq bridge, at Sidon's southern approach. Eyewitnesses reported that an Israeli vehicle was damaged, and all its occupants were killed.

Subsequently, the occupation forces cordoned off the area and carried out a wide-scale search in the nearby fields.

At dawn today, an explosive charge went off as an occupation forces convoy was passing through the area between Burj al-Shamali and Al-Bazuriyah in the Tyre District. These forces immediately sealed off the area. The French UNIFIL troops were put on alert and assumed combat positions, preventing the occupation forces from entering Al-Bazuriyah.

The enemy radio this morning admitted that an antitank rocket was fired at an occupation army liaison office in Al-Nabatiyah and claimed that no one was hurt. It also admitted that this was the second time this post had been attacked.

Israelis Evacuate Positions in Sidon Area
NC311818 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Our correspondent in the South reports that the Israelis have evacuated their military positions in the Sidon area, removing mobile and fixed equipment, taking down ramparts, blowing up old tunnels, and dismantling all their towers. Our correspondent adds that the Israelis only kept a number of observation posts in Sharhabil, Mar Ilyas, and in the area near Jisr al-Awwali.

18 Killed, 50 Wounded in Tripoli Explosion
NC011304 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Sinful and criminal hands reached Tripoli and detonated a boobytrapped car outside the Al-Iman 'Ali Mosque on Al-Masarif Street at 1215 today, while worshipers were performing their Friday prayers.

According to information coming from the north, 18 persons were killed and approximately 50 others were wounded in the explosion.

Also heavy material damage was caused within a radius of 500 meters.

Briefs

Egyptian Envoy Departs — Ambassador Dr Salah Zaki, former chief of the Egyptian Interests Section in Lebanon, left Beirut tonight for Egypt following his transfer to another post. He was succeeded in Lebanon by Nuhad al-'Asqalani. He was seen off at the airport by Al-'Asqalani, a representative of the Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Ministry, and several senior officials from the Egyptian Interests Section in Lebanon. [Text] [*Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85 NC*]

Saudi Crown Prince Arrives, Meets Al-Asad

JN311802 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] At 2000 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and commander of the Saudi National Guard. The meeting was attended by Faysal Humaydan, Saudi health minister; 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil, Saudi minister of industry and electricity; 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, Saudi deputy commander of the National Guard; Nasir al-Rajihi, director of the crown prince's office; 'Abdallah al-Fadl, Saudi ambassador in Damascus; and Prince Turki ibn 'Abdallah ibn Muhammad, advisor to the crown prince's office.

Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz arrived in Damascus at 1800 this evening on a visit to Syria. He was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by Vice President Dr Rif'at al-Asad. He was also welcomed by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus.

Further on Al-Asad Meeting

JN312050 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad and Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz held a closed meeting at 2030 this evening during which they reviewed recent developments in the region, exchanged views on ways of confronting this situation, and stressed the need to reinforce Arab solidarity.

President Hafiz al-Asad gave a dinner banquet in honor of Prince 'Abdallah. The banquet was attended on the Saudi side by Faysal Hujaylan, minister of health; 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Zamil, minister of industry and electricity; and 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Tuwayjiri, deputy commander of the National Guard. It was attended on the Syrian side by Dr Rif'at al-Asad, vice president; 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Nasir al-Din Nasir, minister of interior; Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister; and Wahib Fadil, minister of state for presidential affairs.

AL-BA'TH Raps U.S.; Jordan, Iraq, Egypt Gathering

JN011024 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 1 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Reagan Plan and Gathering Renegades and Agents," *AL-BA'TH* says: The Arab citizen wonders whether this great amity between the Jordanian regime and the fascist regime in Iraq serves any pan-Arab objective. And since Washington has already answered this question with war loans and secret hostilities that have revived the Baghdad Pact, the Arab citizen should inevitably fear the danger of the game that has prompted the recent U.S. diplomatic moves and enabled the White House administration to return to the old Eisenhower Plan in the Middle East.

King Husayn is imitating the hypocritical style of the battles of Badr, 'Uhud and Al-Khandaq in early Islam when he allows himself to be a guard for Israel, according to Yitzhaq Rabin, and when he claims that he is concerned about Arabism and joins Saddam Husayn inside the U.S. trench that is placed at Israel's disposal.

Another question is asked by the Palestinians and Arabs: We wonder, is Yasir 'Arafat's role in the current game that is led by the conspiratorial threesome in Amman, Baghdad, and Cairo a recent one, or is it older than the nude flight from Beirut and the distribution of the Palestinian fighters in scattered desert exiles.

AL-BA'TH says: Once again, the United States answers this question — it announces that it stands against any united Arab effort as long as such effort is consecrated against Israel. Therefore, 'Arafat perpetrated his deeds to strike at the unity of the Palestinian ranks, thereby facilitating King Husayn's role, easing the task of the Camp David regime in Egypt, and rescuing Israel from the danger of the intensifying Palestinian power.

The royal contacts with Israel were resumed in a more direct manner. Shim'on Peres' messages to the royal palace's owner are no longer secret. The king's task to provide cover for the U.S. plans to avenge its defeats on Lebanese territory is no longer secret. Hence, what type of pan-Arab stand is King Husayn claiming he is adopting and defending?

If the tanker war that Saddam is staging in the Gulf is intended to allow the United States to firmly control the Arab wealth, then can we say that this fascist is defending the eastern flank of the Arab homeland?

AL-BA'TH concludes: The answers also come from Washington. Robert Newman is optimistic over King Husayn's role. The Reagan administration regards a Jordanian-Israeli-'Arafatist agreement as necessary. Therefore, the objective of gathering the ranks of the renegades and agents is clear. Also clear are the requirements of this gathering; namely creating a U.S. cordon that should precede the Reagan plan of last April — a plan aimed to strike at Syria because it represents Arab steadfastness.

TISHRIN on Tabah Talks, 'Deviating' Policy

JN311227 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0740 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Damascus, 31 Jan (SANA) — *TISHRIN* says that calls by Egyptian regime officials for the Arabs to sit with Israel at the negotiating table cause great surprise because they coincide with the conclusion of the Egyptian-Israeli talks on Tabah which have not achieved anything. In its editorial, the newspaper adds: If Mubarak's Egypt adheres to its right to sovereignty over Tabah on the basis of not failing to fulfill its peace agreement with Israel, then Israel should withdraw from Tabah without hesitation out of its concern for the usefulness of the peace process and for its credibility in order to encourage others to join this peace process.

TISHRIN continues: However, Israel, those who made peace with it, those who intend to violate the Khartoum 'no' openly, and those who drew up the strategy aimed at imposing peace with Israel on the Arabs will not be able, by themselves, to decide the future of the region. The national forces have their own strategy

to foil the one aimed at imposing peace with Israel, and have a policy separate from that of seeking negotiations with Israel. The national forces' policy has proven its credibility and effectiveness many times. These Arab national forces have gained experience in running the conflict with the imperialist-reactionary-Zionist alliance in a line parallel to the course of those seeking involvement with Washington in order to reject the main demand of the Arab masses; namely, liberation. Concluding, *TISHRIN* asserts that a confrontation between the national Arab course and those deviating from the course of the nation will inevitably take place. Those who are forging the strategy of Arab reneging must realize that Syria, which is concluding its regional congress and renewing loyalty to struggler Al-Asad, is finalizing the policy of moving to the counterattack.

AL-THAWRAH Comments on Rabin Visit to Washington

JN011037 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 1 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] On Zionist enemy war minister Yitzhaq Rabin's visit to Washington, the newspaper *AL-THAWRAH* says: Rabin's talks with Reagan and the CIA director dealt with issues far beyond U.S. aid to the Zionist enemy. Statements by Rabin himself disclose a joint Washington-Tel Aviv plan to carry out hostile acts in the region. Rabin advised the Reagan administration not to rely on diplomatic action in the Middle East because the prevailing situation requires great action, as Rabin put it.

This clearly refers to the military aggression Israel intends to wage in the region on the basis of its stragic alliance with the United States. Such an assumption is possible, because the Reagan administration's intention to promote its aggressive alliance with Israel must lead to further aggressive wars and joint military operations against the states and peoples of the region.

Even the aid that the United States generously extends to the Zionist state flows in this direction. This aid will only intensify Israel's aggressiveness and arrogance.

Further on U.S. Visit of Defense Minister Rabin

Rabin Meets Reagan

TA301621 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1447 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] A few minutes ago, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin ended his meeting with President Ronald Reagan in the White House. The meeting lasted for about 30 minutes and the two discussed, among other things, Israel's economic problems, the IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, and peace with Egypt. Our correspondent 'Oded Granot is on the telephone from Washington:

Good day to you. A few minutes ago the defense minister left the White House following a meeting with President Reagan which lasted about 1/2 hour. The talks centered on Israel's economic problems. Mr Rabin gave the President a detailed review of the moves which have been and will be adopted in Israel in the economic sphere. He left the White House with the feeling that an annoucement will be issued today on the military aid Israel will receive in 1986, an increase of $400 million. He said, however, that it was his impression from his talks with the President, as well as with other U.S. Administration officials, that no decision had yet been made on the economic aid. Let us hear his remarks:

[Begin Rabin recording] I do not know about a conclusion on this issue. I raised before the President Israel's order of priorities — strengthening the economy, solving the Lebanese problem, warming up or further normalizing Israeli-Egyptian relations, and only thereafter, examining the possibilities for expanding the peace process. I definitely thanked the President for everything he did during his first term in office. I congratulated him on his second term in office, expressing the hope that he will continue to develop relations with us, which reached a peak during his term in office in the White House. On the basis of my talks with the President and others, I believe there is a great deal of understanding for Israel's economic and security problems. Just as there will be a significant increase in the military aid, I believe there will also be an increase in the economic aid. But unlike the decision on military aid, the one on economic aid has yet to be made. I believe that the announcement about the $1.8 billion [in millitary aid] will be released today. [end recording]

To sum up, at the end of his talk with President Reagan, Rabin pointed out that the key achievement was an increase of the military aid. There is no decision yet on the economic aid.

Further on Rabin Remarks

TA301721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan promised Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin that the U.S. military aid to Israel will stand at $1.8 billion this year. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that after the meeting, Yitzhaq Rabin said that the sum of civilian aid has not yet been decided, but he hopes it will be increased.

On political matters he said Israel has no illusions about a cessation of terrorist acts after the withdrawal from Lebanon. He nevertheless noted that Israel will continue to act against terrorism with every appropriate means.

Rabin added that in his meetings with the U.S. Administration leaders, he expressed Israel's opposition to any attempt to grant the Soviet Union a major role in the efforts to resolve the Israeli-Arab dispute.

Rabin: Reagan Favors Aid

TA010131 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 1 Feb 85 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpt] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reported to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres that the U.S. Administration is willing in principle to increase its economic aid to Israel, following the President's decision to increase military aid to $1.8 billion.

Minister Rabin passed on a very positive report on his talk with President Reagan. According to the defense minister, the U.S. President reiterated his personal commitment to Israel's security and economy. Reagan promised that if Israel encounters particularly difficult problems during its economic recovery process, the United States will offer emergency economic assistance.

According to Rabin's report, the United States is satisfied with the Israeli Government's decision to withdraw from Lebanon, but is concerned about possible massacres by the local sects. The United States announced that it will not hold Israel responsible for unusual incidents in Lebanon after the withdrawal.

U.S. Arms Sales, International Issues Viewed

Rabin on Saudis, Soviets

TA301214 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 30 Jan 85 p 5

[Report from Washington by 'Oded Granot]

[Excerpt] In his meeting yesterday with the U.S. Armed Forces chiefs of staff, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin took a strong stand against supplying sophisticated weaponry to Saudi Arabia.

The meeting was attended by Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff General Vessey, senior officers, and aides, among others. During the meeting, Rabin said: "Even if you supply additional planes to Saudi Arabia, you will not increase its political strength to withstand foreign hostilities." Rabin emphasized that in the Arab world "moderation" is only used in the context of a global confrontation, not with reference to the Middle East dispute.

Minister Rabin reiterated his concern over the anticipated dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States on the Middle East, emphasizing that only a peace process led by the United States — in which the Soviet Union would be "neutralized" — can achieve results.

General Vessey said the U.S. aim was to prevent Soviet expansion in the Middle East. "The Soviets," Vessey said, "are like water. They spread all over and reach everywhere."

In a discussion on Lebanon, the defense minister admitted that politically, Syria emerged from the Lebanese war "with the upper hand."

The defense minister said that the Shi'ites in southern Lebanon are in the process of building their political strength. "The Shi'ite genie has come out of the bottle," he said. He assessed that a continued Israeli presence in Lebanon would only increase the Shi'ites' hostility toward Israel and other elements in southern Lebanon. He emphasized that Israel would not limit its freedom of action in Lebanon, as part of its efforts to prevent acts of terror.

Officials on Arms Freeze

TA010623 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] It is not a new U.S. arms supply policy; the United States is merely asking for time. This is the assessment of Israeli officials reacting to the administration's announcement on the postponement of the supply of sophisticated arms to the Middle East, or perhaps on the postponement of making new decisions on the supply of arms to the Middle East. The timing of the announcement, made last night, was surprising, since the visit of King Fahd to Washington is nearing. Razi Barqay reports from Washington:

[Begin recording] [Barqay] Israeli sources told us this morning that the whole matter should be taken with a grain of salt, adding that one can hardly believe that the administration has forsaken its commitment to Saudi Arabia. At the same time, they pointed out two reasons for the U.S. announcement:

First, the pressure applied to King Fahd to embrace the policy of a dialogue and back peace moves;

Second, the desire not to engage in a premature struggle with Israel's friends in Congress, now that the administration is in the midst of the battle over the budget.

Last night, Secretary of State Shultz himself did not rule out the possibility of the sale of arms to Saudi Arabia in the next few months, at the end of the grace period the administration has allotted itself.

Israel's ambassador to Washington Me'ir Rosenne told us: We have explained to the Americans that our unequivocal position is that no sophisticated arms should be sold to an Arab country.

[Rosenne] We did not receive any notification from the administration about any change in the supply of arms to our region. In the course of his visit here, the defense minister made it clear that Israel objects to the supply of arms to the Arab countries that are at war with us. In addition to this, we emphasized clearly that any supply of arms will also place another burden on the Israeli economy, at a time when we are employing all the well-known drastic measures to resolve our economic woes, with the help of the U.S. Administration.

[Barqay] In the next few weeks, the president is going to be involved with an intense Middle East timetable, including visits by Saudi Arabia's Fahd and Egypt's Mubarak, as well as a struggle in Congress for the approval of the budget, including the foreign aid to Israel. Initially, the administration's budget proposal will not include a clause on civilian aid, so that perhaps ultimately a package deal will be worked out: Israel's friends will concede on the issue of arms to Jordan and Saudi Arabia, in return for the administration's willingness to increase economic aid to Israel. [end recording]

Joint Communique Issued on Tabah Talks

TA311703 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 29 Jan 85

[Report by Steve Leibowitz]

[Text] The following joint communique was read by talks spokesman Ehud Gol at the conclusion of today's final round of Egypt-Israel talks in Beersheba:

The delegations of the Governments of Egypt and Israel, with the participation of representatives of the United States Government, met in Beersheba (between) 27 - 29 January 1985 to discuss the implementation of the 25 April 1982 agreement on "initial procedures for resolving boundary questions."

During the meetings, the delegations discussed in detail the role and functions which the Multinational Force and Obesrvers will be asked to perform in the Tabah and other areas in question. They exchanged draft proposals on these subjects. In the course of these exchanges they narrowed their differences of view. A draft to be submitted to their respective governments was prepared setting out points on which the two delegations could agree on the MFO functions, pending agreement on points which are still unresolved. They expect that this draft will provide the basis for continuing discussions, with a view to reaching final agreement on the implementation of the 25 April 1982 agreement.

During the Beersheba meetings, the Egyptian side also stressed the importance of an early implementation of all the provisions of the 25 April 1982 agrement, through the timely application of article 7 in the treaty of peace involving resolution of disputes. The Egyptian side expressed its preference for submitting the dispute to arbitration immediately. The Israeli side suggested that, as has been the practice between the two parties as regards matters concerning the implementation of the peace treaty, an appropriate committee be formed to discuss the procedure to be applied in accordance with article 7 of the treaty, which provides for conciliation or submission to arbitration.

The meetings were conducted throughout in a constructive and friendly spirit, with both sides emphasizing their desire to reach early agreement on the role and functions of the MFO. They focused on ways to achieve that end.

During the meetings, the Israeli delegation raised several humanitarian issues, including that of the bodies of missing Israeli soldiers, as well as regards good neighborly relations. The

locale provided the opportunity for discussion between the Egyptian and Israeli military representatives within the liaison system on these issues. They agreed to hold meetings in the near future on these questions.

Reportage on Tabah Talks Held in Beersheba

Venue of Tabah Talks

TA311203 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 31 Jan 85 p 2

[Report by political correspondent]

[Text] The Israeli delegation to the Tabah talks has expressed its willingness to name Cairo as the location for the first session of the committee to determine the format for the continuation of the Tabah talks. This committee has been appointed to decide whether the dispute over the sovereignty of Tabah should be settled by means of conciliation or arbitration. Both possibilities are mentioned in the peace agreement.

Jerusalem believes that the Egyptian-Israeli military committee talks on the stationing of the MFO in Tabah will continue in February.

Political sources believe that President Mubarak will order the meeting on the stationing of the MFO to be held in Ismailia, prior to his visit to Washington in March.

MIA's, Daqar Crew Discussion

TA311402 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 31 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Yosi Melman]

[Text] IDF and Egyptian officers will soon meet to decide on procedures to enable Israel to resume the search for the 19 IDF MIA's who disappeared in the 6-Day War and the Yom Kippur War, and the search for the missing *Daqar* submarine crew off the Egyptian coast.

The decision on this issue was made in the talks held this week in Beersheba between respresentatives of both countries, but it has not yet been published. It has been learned that the meeting will probably take place between Brigadier General Dov Si'on and the Egyptian Brigadier Labib. Both military men head the military liaison system set up to follow the peace agreement and the evacuation from Sinai.

Canadian Refugee Camp Discussion

TA311955 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] In the near future, the Israeli and Egyptian military delegations will meet in the MFO headquarters in the Sinai, and one of the issues to be discussed will be the future of the refugee camp inhabitants living on the Egyptian side of the Canadian refugee camp. The two sides agree in principle that the inhabitants of the camp should move to the territory held by Israel.

Shamir on Syrian Ambitions, Egyptian Normalization

TA010632 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Shamir says that Syrian ambitions to achieve a strategic balance with Israel through Soviet arms means that Israel must double its preparedness on its northern border. At a meeting with former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, now visiting Israel, Shamir said that while there were no differences within the government on withdrawal, the main problem now is the security of northern Israel.

On relations with Egypt, Shamir told Brandt that normalization was the most important aspect. Egyptian policy, Shamir said, had not pursued normalization even during the presidency of Anwar al-Sadat, and it now depended largely on the extent of Egyptian motivation.

Shamir on Settlers' Demand for Rabin To Resign

TA311429 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1422 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The heads of the Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria this morning called on Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to resign due to blunders and the deterioration of the situation in Judaea and Samaria. They made a comparison between Judaea and Samaria and southern Lebanon.

These remarks were made to Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir who toured the Hebron area today. Shamir told them that a comparison between the situation in Judaea and Samaria and the situation in Lebanon is hysterical and damaging. He said that we must not talk about the dismissal of ministers, but rather about strengthening the security in Judaea and Samaria.

This is reported by our correspondent Arye Salman.

Eban Raps Shamir Remarks on West Bank Settlement

TA311925 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir says that a large Jewish settlement will be set up inside the town of Hebron. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir toured the Hebron hills area and visited the settlers inside Hebron. Mr Shamir said that those who believe that the present government will adopt a policy different from that of the previous government regarding Judaea and Samaria should be disillusioned.

In reaction, the head of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee said that the foreign minister's remarks run contrary to the outlook of at least half of the Israeli population. Mr Eban said he hopes that all Israeli citizens, and Israel's sympathizers around the world, understand that these remarks do not represent the concensus in the State of Israel.

Weizman Would Meet 'Arafat If Israel Recognized

TA011057 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 1 Feb 85 p 1

[Report on interview with Minister 'Ezer Weizman by Amnon Barzilay — date and place not given]

[Text] In an interview with *HA'ARETZ*, 'Ezer Weizman declared that he would be willing to meet Yasir 'Arafat if the latter recognized the State of Israel. Weizman said that the Likud had indirectly reached an agreement with the PLO before the Peace for Galilee operation and, as a result, not one shell landed on Israel's northern border.

On the negotiations with Egypt on the Tabah issue, Weizman said that if Israel could return all of the Sinai to Egypt, the 450 dunams of Tabah should make no difference.

Weizman also said that he thinks he has a positive influence on the prime minister. He added that he would be pleased to fill another position in the government, but he sees the issue he is in charge of — dealing with Israel's Arabs — as a great challenge.

Arens Expresses Reservations About Withdrawal

TA311832 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Minister Moshe Arens says that we cannot protect the Galilee from the Galilee, and the experience of the 14 years which preceded the Peace for Galilee operation has proved this. Speaking in Kibbutz Elon in the western Galilee, Arens said that the residents of the Galilee, particularly in Nahariyya and Qiryat Shemona, cannot live underground forever.

Our correspondent Yo'el Dar presents an excerpt of the minister's remarks:

[Begin recording] [Arens] I am afraid that protecting the Galilee from the Galilee is a very difficult mission. The decision was reached, and we are in the process of evacuation, which will take a long time. I do not know how much we can learn from the events which have taken place over the last 2 weeks since the decision was reached — perhaps we can learn a little. I believe it will be somewhat hard to find in the events of the last 2 weeks — which have seen an increasing number of attacks on the IDF — justification or support for these claims. Even after we announced we were withdrawing, even after we began to evacuate the area, there was no decrease in terrorist activity. On the contrary, there was an increase of such activity.

[Dar] The speaker went on to say that the government's decision must be carried out, even by those who do not agree with it. Asked whether better sheltering conditions would solve the security problems of the Galilee residents, Minister Arens said:

[Arens] I am in favor of greater investment in shelters. However, I do not believe shelters are the solution to this problem. Qiryat Shemona residents cannot live underground. I do not know whether Kibbutz Elon can do so. However, I am certain Qiryat Shemona and Nahariyyah cannot do so. [end recording]

No Early Evacuation of Sidon Area Planned

TA311915 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Although the evacuation of the IDF bases from southern Lebanon is progressing very rapidly, the IDF withdrawal from the Sidon area will not be earlier than the set date of 18 February. This is the assessment in Jerusalem. Our military correspondent reports that the Lebanese Army has prepared detailed plans for deployment in the IDF-vacated area, and among other things, Lebanese Army soldiers will be stationed in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah refugee camp.

Our correspondent reports that the assessment in Jerusalem is that there is a chance of reaching an agreement with Lebanon on the deployment of the Lebanese Army in IDF-vacated areas. Military sources say that by the end of the week all the heavy equipment slated for evacuation will have been removed from the region.

More Terrorism Expected

TA311838 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1745 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Southern Lebanon, 31 Jan (ITIM) — An antitank missile was fired this morning at an IDF unit in the village of Al-Nabatiyah in southern Lebanon, but there were no casualties and no damage was caused. The IDF forces began searches.

A Border Police patrol was later attacked with a roadside charge planted enar the village of Qulaylah. The patrol opened fire and combed the area.

At the same time, the ITIM correspondent in the north quotes military sources as saying that the IDF is preparing for increased terrorist attacks in the Al-Nabatiyah area following the completion of the evacuation of the IDF forces north of this village, in accordance with the first stage of the withdrawal plan. Early signs of such an increase are already apparent in the area, but the terrorists have not yet scored real successes. The IDF is aware that the evacuation of the areas north of Al-Nabatiyah will make it easier for the terrorists to arrive in the region and try to attack the IDF soldiers.

Most of the IDF units currently located in Lebanon have already begun to organize their bases in Israel; they have already sent the liaison soldiers and administrative and other workers to the bases inside Israel to prepare for the absorption of soldiers returning from Lebanon.

Moda'i: Package Deal Will Influence U.S. Aid

TA311758 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i today promised to see that any factory that can prove its ability to increase exports over the short term will receive aid. The minister appeared before the Knesset Finance Committee, where he rejected the demand of importers and manufacturers to raise prices. He noted that the decisions concerning price hikes were made according to accurate costs calculations. Our correspondent Uri Ginosar reports:

The members of the Knesset Finance Committee today wanted mainly to learn what the government intends to do to encourage exports. The finance minister talked about decreasing income available for leisure purposes, setting a rate for dollar costs of imports, and encouraging financial investments for exports. He said he will personally help any factory that can prove it can increase its exports in the near future. This year the Treasury has already released $70 million beyond its budget for extending such aid. Moda'i said that the second package deal is not an economic plan. However, it includes many achievements, especially the government's achievements. This time the deal does not include suppression of inflation, since it allows for controlled price hikes. In the first package deal the government carried the entire burden, since it was forced to freeze taxes, levies, and the price of subsidized goods. According to the finance minister, the regulations concerning the price hikes are extremely strict, because the hikes of various items were made according to accurate costs calculations.

Moda'i divulged that the decision to extend the second package deal over a period of 8 months was not accidental. It will end at the beginning of October, when U.S. officials will start planning the 1986 fiscal year budget, and the results of the package deal will have ramifications concerning the size of the economic aid the Americans will give Israel. Another issue discussed was the attempt to prevent the printing of money. The finance minister promised that within the next month he will present the Knesset with a draft law according to which Bank of Israel will be prohibited from transferring to the government funds above its budget. This law will be gradually implemented over a period of 3 years, after which the government will owe no more money to Bank of Israel.

Negev Power Plant Planned; Fuel Import Figures
TA311412 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1349 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal today said that his ministry is holding negotiations based on a U.S. initiative to establish a 110 megawatt power plant in the Negev by using shale oil. Minister Shahal said that the U.S. factor involved is very serious, and has received the support and encouragement of the Senate to invest in Israel for the purpose of establishing this electric power plant.

Another energy related item passed to us by our correspondent Meron Tzur: Israel's fuel imports for 1984 amounted to $1.6 billion, including approximately $200 million for coal imports. The energy and infrastructure minister today said that this is an extremely heavy burden on our balance of payments and economy. Fuel imports last year amounted to more than 20 percent of Israel's total imports of goods.

UK's Edward Heath Meets Frayj, Al-Shawwa
TA311834 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Former British Prime Minister Edward Heath today met some dignitaries from the territories in the British Consulate in East Jerusalem. Among those he met were Rashad al-Shawwa, Ilyas Frayj, and some newspapers editors.

Reserves Call-Up Exercise Ends 31 January
TA311332 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The public call-up exercise ended early this morning. The IDF spokesman announced that initial conclusions indicate that the response of the reservists to the call-up was rapid and orderly.

AL-ANBA' Publishes Last Editorial on Closure
JN311138 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] In the final issue before its closure, and under the headline "A Truthful Word," *AL-ANBA'* says: At the beginning, our readers thought that *AL-ANBA'* was a government newspaper and a propaganda publication. We succeeded in removing this belief, thanks to the cleverness and smartness of our readers who, every morning, have read political news, reports, and commentaries presented to them objectively and away from the clamor of the varying views and stands of the Israeli coalition government, opposition, and parties. *AL-ANBA'* has presented the Arab community's problems and issues honestly without hiding any shortcomings. It has also highlighted the Arab citizens' achievements.

AL-ANBA' adds: Our sincerity and honesty, regrettably, prompted the resentment and anger of rancorous and pessimistic communists who discovered that *AL-ANBA'* was a rival to their *AL-ITTIHAD*, exposing the lies and false facts it does not hesitate to publish. We would have expected Abu Shamaqmaq, Juhayna, and the other Red [writers in *AL-ITTIHAD*] to hide their malicious joy and rancour at the decision to close *AL-ANBA'*, because regardless of how low the individual reaches, he should at least be affected when he sees his colleagues dismissed from work and loosing their livelihood after 17 years.

Concluding its last editorial, *AL-ANBA'* says: We regret leaving the Arab press arena for Moscow's parrots, who put the objectives of their masters in the Kremlin above all other considerations, and who do not hesitate to call a criminal anyone who rejects their inducements and pleas, and refuses to join their list during election campaigns. We also regret leaving the arena for those propagating rumors and lies. However, we gain comfort from the fact that we have accomplished the mission in which we believe that Arab readers are clever and intelligent enough to not be deceived by what communists and other rancorous persons publish, write, and propagate.

ALGERIA

President Bendjedid Chairs FLN Politburo Session

LD312354 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The FLN Party Politburo met today under the chairmanship of Brother Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Presidency. The Politburo discussed the prevailing situation in the region in light of the latest developments and contacts carried out between Algeria and neighboring countries. The Politburo stressed the importance of continuing the efforts within the policy of dialogue and consultation between the countries of the Greater Arab Maghreb.

Rabat Paper Reports Algerian Army Maneuvers

LD011015 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0926 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Rabat, 1 Feb (KUNA) — The Algerian Army has been carrying out military maneuvers in the Algerian desert, reports the Rabat-based newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD AL-ISHTIRAKI* today.

Quoting reliable sources in Paris, the paper says that the maneuvers were intended to prepare the Algerian Army for any likely confrontation in the Sahara war. The paper adds that the building of the fourth security wall by Morocco on the borders with Algeria has disturbed the Algerian authorities. The paper says also that the Algerian authorities have begun digging trenches and amassing military concentrations on the borders between the two countries.

LIBYA

Further Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Premier

Joint Talks Begin

LD311415 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Arab Libyan-Bulgarian talks began this afternoon in Tripoli. The talks were attended by Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and Mr Grisha Filipov, member of the Political Bureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party and premier. Taking part in the talks were the brother secretary of the General People's Committee for Land Reclamation and a number of officials in various secretariats. On the Bulgarian side the talks were attended by the delegation accompanying the prime minister.

Delegations Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD010035 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution today received General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

The brother leader of the revolution also received this evening Grisha Filipov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and premier.

Jallud Speech at Banquet

LD011028 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 1 Feb (JANA) — Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud gave a banquet yesterday evening in honor of Grisha Filipov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and premier, and members of his delegation. The banquet was attended by the secretaries of the General People's Committee and heads of political missions in the Jamahiriyah.

During the banquet Major Jallud delivered a speech in which he welcomed Grisha Filipov and the accompanying delegation. He said: The exchange of visits between the Jamahiriyah and Bulgaria has become a tradition performed on all levels. We hold these visits in high esteem. Our talks today have been very fruitful, he added. He referred to the exchange of visits between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and Todor Zhivkov which laid the basis and opened the scope for strong friendship and cooperation between the two countries. Jallud said: Our talks today have proven once more that our views, analyses, and attitudes toward the issues that concern us and the world at large are identical.

Major Jallud pointed out that cooperation between Bulgaria and the Jamahiriyah does not aim at the immediate interests of Bulgaria and Libya but at increasing our struggle and revolutionary capabilities.

Major Jallud said that like the Jamahiriyah, Bulgaria is exposed to attack from several sides because of its steadfast attitude toward the liberation movements and progressive forces. He affirmed the importance of meetings between the two countries which enabled them to review the many issues in which the Jamahiriyah and Bulgaria play prominent roles due to their commitment to the causes of freedom, peace, and progress.

Jallud said the Jamahiriyah and Bulgaria have morale and struggle capabilities which can play a major role — a role even the imperialist powers must reckon with. He added that might is not a matter of material resources, but of strong faith and firm principles, and adherence to these principles.

During the past 4 years, he said, the world has seen problems which genuinely threaten the existence of mankind, and it appears that the next 4 years will be an extension and an escalation of these problems.

Major Jallud referred to the imperialist offensive by the United States under the Reagan administration, the capitalist world, the reactionary forces and the many directions taken against the [words indistinct] countries and the progressive forces, their natural extension, in order to destroy the victories scored by the progressive forces in the Third World and to paralyze the capabilities of the socialist countries to prevent them from performing their revolutionary role. Major Jallud spoke in this respect of

the directions taken by the imperialist offensive which began with an economic war, direct military aggression, terrorism by the intelligence organizations, and attempts to force the socialist world and progressive countries to accept the arms race on both the strategic level between the two superpowers and the conventional arms level in the Third World.

Major Jallud said that while the world is expecting success from the talks on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons or their destruction, we have been surprised by American imperialism — the Reagan administration — trying to transform the race into what is being called "star wars."

Major Jallud discussed the continued imperialist reactionary offensive under the leadership of the United States against the socialist countries and the progressive countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. In this context, he referred to the direct aggression against Lebanon and Grenada and the unethical terrorist offensive being launched by the U.S. Government against small countries, and to the U.S. fleets threatening their shores and skies. He referred to the acts of terrorism to which the Jamahiriyah and Nicaragua have been exposed and to the U.S. terrorist maneuvers off our shores with a view to terrorizing the Libyan Arab people. He affirmed that the Reagan administration is following the same aggressive course it has followed during the past 4 years and indeed is now escalating it.

Major Jallud spoke of the U.S. Administration's false intentions, allocating tens of billions of dollars for the production of more conventional and strategic weapons at a time when the world looks hopefully to the start of talks between the two superpowers for limiting or destroying nuclear weapons. Furthermore, he said, the U.S. Administration has continued its production of missiles. He added that the U.S. defense secretary has blackmailed Congress by saying that unless it approves the program for producing MX missiles, the talks on limitation or destruction of strategic weapons will not succeed.

He pointed out that imperialism and the reactionary forces in the world have continued intensifying their offensive and they have made plans to attack us.

Major Jallud asked about those who claim to be advocates of freedom in the West and why they have not done anything when millions of people in Africa, Asia, and Latin America are dying of disease and starvation, at a time when hundreds of billions of dollars are being allocated for the manufacture of weapons of destruction.

Major Jallud affirmed that the capitalist imperialist theory is one of aggression, war, and plots at the expense of mankind. He pointed out that an arms race in conventional weapons has been imposed on the small nations and that, following the events in Grenada and Lebanon, small nations should no longer have any faith in the United Nations or in world public opinion. These small nations, he added, have been forced to economize on food in order to buy guns, machineguns, and artillery to defend themselves.

Major Jallud said the Arab nation suffered from the imperialist reactionary Zionist offensive and has suffered a major share of it. It centered on our Arab area, and our Arab nation has been paying a major price for resisting this world-wide offensive by the United States.

Major Jallud said the West has continually declared it is launching a crusade against Islam and against communism. But we feel, following the defeat of the United States and the NATO forces in Lebanon and the defeat of the Zionist forces in Lebanon at the hands of the heroic Lebanese resistance, that the potential for an Arab national upsurge is great. Since 1948, the Arabs have fought as conventional armies and have been defeated in these wars against the filthy American-Zionist alliance. But for the first time, the masses armed with faith and light weapons, have succeeded in defeating 50 naval units, including aircraft carriers, and routing the largest of destroyers, the *New Jersey*. The man carrying an RPG machinegun has succeeded in defeating the *New Jersey* and putting the American and NATO forces to flight like mice from Lebanon.

Jallud affirmed that the pan-Arab revolutionary alliance which comprises Libya, Syria, the Lebanese masses, and the Palestine revolution forces are responsible for this pan-Arab victory. He added that it was the first time the United States and Zionism have been defeated. This political, military, and ideological victory has proven the soundness of the theory on the defeat of conventional armies from 1948 to 1973.

Major Jallud added that unarmed people, having no chief of staff, no minister of defense, no prime minister, and no president have triumphed because they have freedom of action and willpower. For the first time since 1948, the Zionists have been forced to withdraw unconditionally. This is the beginning of the countdown of the end of the Zionist entity. It is also the beginning of victory for the Arab nation and the start of the era of defeats for Zionism and imperialism.

Major Jallud also pointed to the role played by the Islamic revolution in Iran in bringing about this victory, as well as the major role played by the socialist countries led by the USSR and their building up the military capabilities of Syria, the Jamahiriyah, and the national Lebanese resistance.

Major Jallud denounced the aggression against Nicaragua and Reagan's threats. Reagan used the Iranian prime minister's visit to Nicaragua as an excuse for attacking it and Nicaragua's acceptance of help from any country to defend itself an excuse for threatening Nicaragua.

Jallud affirmed that Libya is a free country which honors treaties concluded with any country and concludes agreements with any country. He affirmed the Jamahiriyah's support for Nicaragua and the need for democratic and progressive forces in the world to support Nicaragua.

Major Jallud said the Zionist enemy has proved its racist nature and has been shown to be without ethics. Yet it finds support in the Egyptian regime and by the lackey Numayri himself who is a new Zionist and who served the Zionist entity more than any Zionist by joining in an official agreement with Egypt, the United States, and the Zionist enemy for the transfer of the Falashas to occupied Palestine. Major Jallud said that Numayri is now

considered more Zionist than all the Zionist leaders serving the Zionist entity.

Major Jallud said it is regrettable and strange to see Yasir 'Arafat declare that Numayri's participation in this plot has not been ascertained; Arab silence, particularly Arab reaction to this crime, is disgraceful.

This, he said, provides an indication of the depths to which Arab condition has fallen. Major Jallud said: We have lost confidence in the rulers and have no other [leader] than the people.

Concluding, Major Jallud said the alliance of progressive forces in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and their friendship with the socialist countries headed by the USSR will inevitably lead to the defeat of the multi-sided imperialist offensive.

Visiting SRV Vice Chairman Declares Support
LD311618 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0015 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, has saluted the brother leader of the revolution and the historic victories achieved because of the great Al-Fatih Revolution.

In the speech he delivered yesterday evening at a meeting of the Port Sa'id Basic People's Congress in Tripoli, he said: We see the Jamahiriyah as a fortress of struggle against American imperialism. General Vo Nguyen Giap stressed that the Libyan Arab people are able to fight all the conspiracies plotted against them by imperialism because they are an armed people.

General Vo Nguyen Giap declared his country's solidarity and support with the Jamahiriyah. He said that Vietnam and the Jamahiriyah are bound by relations of struggle against colonialism. He added that there is true freedom in the Jamahiriyah and that the people's congresses are the true expression of a people's democracy.

Lebanese National Democratic Front Group Arrives
LD311416 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Walid Junblatt, secretary of the Lebanese National Democratic Front, arrived in Tripoli this afternoon, at the head of a delegation from the front. Brother Junblatt made a statement to a JANA correspondent saying: The Zionist enemy will not withdraw from southern Lebanon and will redeploy its forces; we in the National Democratic Front are determined to continue the struggle for the liberation of all Lebanese territory from the Zionist presence.

He said: We and the Jamahiriyah meet to confront all the American-Western plans aimed at enfeebling and dividing the Arab people. We believe that steadfastness and confrontation must be strengthened in order to face up to American colonialism.

UN Envoy Refutes Chadian 'Fabrications'
LD311758 Tripoli JANA in English 1501 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] New York, Jumada Awal 9, Jan 31, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Jamahiriyah's acting envoy to the United Nations has refuted allegations and fabrications made by rebel Habre's foreign minister to the UN Security Council, last night.

He said: The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah does not intervene in Chad nor does it have any presence on Chadian territory. What is described by some anti-Jamahiriyah circles as Libyan forces are only troops belonging to the legitimate National Unity Government, positioned in the northern part of Chad. Therefore, the objective of renegade Habre's call for the meeting of the Security Council is to:

1 -- Attempt to harm Jamahiriyah, to show it as an aggressor and to doubt its intentions vis-a-vis Chad.

2 -- Minimize the importance and military strength of the legitimate National Unity Government under the leadership of Goukouni Oueddei which controls northern Chad and has forces deployed throughout the country.

3 -- Attempt to create justifications for rebel Habre and his clique to obtain more weapons, foreign forces, and mercenaries to be used in repressive operations and massacres against the Chadian people and to explode the situation by attacking forces belonging to the legitimate government in the north.

4 -- Attempt to legitimize the rebel regime in Ndjamena, a legitimacy which it was unable to obtain from the Chadians.

The envoy added: Hissein Habre and his representatives try to influence public opinion with talk of peace, security, and stability in Chad, while facts refute their claims, becausee Hissein Habre has always been the source of instability in Chad. He is responsible for all the tragedies which befell the Chadians in the past seven years, since the arrival of Frolinac [Front de Liberation Nationale de Chad] in the capital, Ndjamena. Since that time, Hissein Habre's history has been a record of rebellious acts, crimes and massacres against the Chadian people.

At this point, it is difficult to relate all the acts of sabotage to security and stability as carried out by Habre. I shall only refer to the fact that he has drowned the country in a long civil war, by rebelling against the government of Major Felix Maloum, after signing an agreement with him, through which he was able to reach the capital and take the position of prime minister. He has also violated the 1978 Kano agreement, and tried to monopolize power, thus perpetuating and fuelling the civil war, and ultimately violated the Lagos agreement — Hissein Habre has continuously worked against all genuine efforts made by the OAU and African states to bring about national reconciliation and restore peace, stability and legitimacy to Chad.

The envoy went on to say that rebel Habre had hindered all efforts to reconcile warring factions in Chad, since he had thwarted Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam's initiative as OAU chairman to convene the Addis Ababa reconciliation conference, as well as Angola's initiative to hold a similar

conference in Brazzaville, by insisting on his recognition by other Chadian factions and the legitimate government led by Goukouni [Oueddei] as head of state.

He added: The army of the north, led by Hissein Habre who has sent an envoy to the U.N. to speak on his behalf, is but one faction of the eleven Chadian groups who signed the Lagos National Reconciliation Agreement. Therefore, the international community cannot be misled nor is it possible to give legitimacy to a government consisting of one faction, a government which was formed through armed rebellion and with the backing of mercenaries and foreign forces. It is no wonder that Hissein Habre is a target for an assassination attempt or that his group is also a target, that it is facing armed opposition and continued military operations in the south and that it has no influence on the northern part of the country which is controlled by the legitimate government. This undoubtedly confirms that claiming Jamahiriyah to be the mastermind behind the attempt to assassinate rebel Habre is groundless, especially as the National Unity Government had announced in a statement released in Brussels that the attempt on Habre's life was carried out by a group of his own guards. The fact that accusations are levied against Jamahiriyah, concerning events in Chad, under the incitement of foreign forces, will not solve Chad's problem. The solution is to realize national reconciliation, according to the Lagos agreement, under the supervision of the OAU and in the presence of all parties signatory to the Lagos agreement.

Historic, geographic, civilization and spiritual ties link the Libyan Arab and Chadian peoples. They share one history in their struggle against colonialism. Jamahiriyah has always been concerned with these special ties linking the two peoples and has always worked towards realizing the Chadian people's unity, security and stability. It was the first country to work toward realizing national reconciliation in Chad and to end the Chadian people's tragedy which has been affecting them since the 1960's.

The envoy then expressed Jamahiriyah's readiness, as a friendly neighbor to Chadian people, to contribute, as it did in the past, to any efforts within the OAU framework, to realize peace and security in Chad, confirming that Jamahiriyah has always reiterated its concern with the unity and independence of Chad. At the same time, however, it will preserve its won territorial unity at whatever cost. Rebel Habre's envoy's pointing to part of Libyan territory is unacceptable. The so-called Aouzou Strip is an integral part of Jamhairiyah's territory, inherited from Italian colonialism, according to the map attached to the report by Andrian Belt, the UN delegate to Libya.

MOROCCO

Niger Foreign Minister Concludes Visit, Departs

LD311635 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Niger Foreign Minister Ide Oumarou this morning left Morocco at the end of a visit during which he was received by his majesty the king.

In a statement at Sale Airport, he said that he had handed to His Majesty King Hassan II a message from the president of Niger within the framework of bolstering the traditional relations between the two countries and the consolidation of cooperation and friendship between them.

The Niger foreign minister expressed his satisfaction with the warm welcome he received in Morocco and with the results of his visit, which will further strengthen the bonds of cooperation between Morocco and Niger and consolidate traditional relations between the two countries.

He said that his visit to Morocco gave him the opportunity to exchange views on the current problems in Africa, including the economic problems of the world and means to bolster cooperation among African states.

The foreign affairs minister of Niger was seen off at the airport by the Foreign Minister Dr Abdelouahed Belkeziz.

Military Exercise with Spain, U.S. Planned

GF311404 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 30 Jan 85 p 1

[Dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] The Moroccan Government has written a secret letter to some Arab capitals, such as Cairo, Amman, Damascus, and Tripoli, informing them that it has decided to hold major military maneuvers with Spain, and that the United States will participate in these maneuvers on the Mediterranean coast, using sophisticated electronic war equipment, with a view to testing them in the battlefield. The United States will not have the right to supervise or plan the maneuvers of the naval and aerial battles. The Moroccan Government has asked these governments for information concerning the U.S. methods used in previous joint maneuvers.

SUDAN

Numayri Receives Message From President Reagan

JN311748 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Jan (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has received a written message from U.S. President Ronald Reagan praising Sudan's efforts to receive and shelter refugees, despite its difficult economic circumstances. The message stresses that the U.S. Government will continue to help Sudan overcome its economic problems. The U.S. President's message to President Numayri touched on the development of bilateral relations, and international issues of common concern.

President Numayri was handed President Reagan's message when he received Hume Alexander Horan, U.S. ambassador in Khartoum, this afternoon in the presence of Dr Baha' al-Din Muhammad Idris, assistant to the president for presidential affairs.

Numayri Decrees New SSU Appointments

JN311539 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 31 Jan (SUNA) — SSU Chairman President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has issued a decree calling for the fifth session of the SSU Central Command to convene 23-25 March.

The president also decreed the appointment of Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir Arbab as acting SSU secretary in the Darfur Region, as a member to the Central Command, and as a member of this command's Executive Bureau; and the appointment of Muhammad al-Hasad Ahmad al-Haj, minister of presidential affairs at the General Secretariat, and Hashim 'Uthman, minister of foreign affairs, as Central Command members.

The president has issued another decree appointing Izak Kot Anog as assistant secretary for organization and administration in the Bahr al-Ghazal Region, and Joseph (Lassah) as assistant secretary for political affairs in the Bahr al-Ghazal Region.

Al-Tayyib Addresses Drought Relief Agencies

EA312125 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Major General 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyib, first vice president of the Republic and chairman of the National Committee for Averting the Effects of Drought and Desertification, presided over a meeting at 1100 this morning at Friendship Hall, bringing together representatives of voluntary organizations operating in the country providing relief to refugees, and citizens affected by drought and desertification, to coordinate efforts in this respect with the National Committee for Averting the Effects of Drought and Desertification.

His excellency touched on the effects of the drought that has hit parts of Sudan and some African countries, which resulted in the arrival in Sudan of thousands of refugees. He said Sudan's efforts, however great, will not be sufficient to meet their needs. His excellency pointed to Sudan's efforts to contain this problem, explaining that the efforts are represented by the formation of the National Committee for Averting the Effects of Drought and Desertification, under the chairmanship of his excellency, and the mobilization of various government organs to confront the urgent problems resulting from the emigration of large numbers of citizens from Kordofan Region to the outskirts of the national capital.

The first vice president stressed that the influx of refugees from Eritrea and Tigrai into Eastern Region, has to a large extent contributed toward the expansion of Sudan's efforts to confront the problem, and that as a result of the Ethiopian regime's policies, which aim to deprive the inhabitants of Eritrea and Tigrai of the international assistance which is pouring into Ethiopia, Sudan, and the High Commission for Refugees in Geneva, have been confined to meeting all the needs of the refugees from the two regions and the needs of the continuing influx into Eastern Region.

His excellency also stressed that Sudan's national effort to confront this problem is the basic assistance, and that the international assistance, despite its importance, is only a supplement to that effort and to the concern that Sudan shows for the problem.

SPLA Radio: Bor Town Suffers 'Extensive Damage'

EA311737 (Clandestine) Radio of Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] SPLA forces in southern Upper Nile operational zone bombarded and raided Bor town the capital of Jonglei Province on 28th January 1985. The raid that was carried out by SPLA's Cobra Battalion, commanded by Major Benjamin (Nyan Kuoth), was masterminded by Lieutenant (Yai Agolo Yai), Lt (Paul Seergay) and Lt (Kul Deng Kul). The town suffered extensive damage including the destruction of the province headquarters. The enemy force lost 10 killed and 35 wounded. One SPLA hero was killed and five wounded in the engagement. In a related development a special SPLA task force under the command of Lt Daniel (Azhwal) raided Akobo garrison on the same day. The enemy suffered heavy casualties both in men and equipment.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Holds Meeting With GDR's Rauchfuss

EA312146 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WFE] Central Committee, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC], and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, held talks today with Comrade Wolfgang Rauchfuss, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and Central Committee member of the German Socialist Unity Party [SED]. Comrade Rauchfuss briefed the comrade chairman on his visit, particularly on the work of the meeting of the joint commission of the two countries. In addition, Comrade Rauchfuss informed the comrade chairman that the support given by the party, government, and people of the GDR to Ethiopia would continue.

The comrade chairman expressed his pleasure at the daily growth and expansion of relations between the two countries, and his confidence that the joint commission meeting would make a major contribution toward this. The comrade chairman talked of the current implementation of the action program, based on the program drafted by the revolutionary government, to combat the problems brought about by drought in Ethiopia and expressed his sincere gratitude for the support given by the GDR party and government.

Wolde Receives Norwegian Development Aid Minister

EA312351 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Comrade Goshu Wolde, WPE Central Committee member and minister of foreign affairs, received and held talks with Mrs Reidun Brusletten, the Norwegian minister of development aid in his office today. During the talks Comrade Goshu held with Mrs Brusletten and the delegation she is leading, he elaborated revolutionary Ethiopia's foreign policy, the damage caused by drought in our country, and the action program drafted to rehabilitate our compatriots affected by the problem. In addition, Comrade Goshu said that revolutionary Ethiopia coexists peacefully with her neighbors, with the exception of a few neighboring countries, with relations based on friendship. He added that Ethiopia does not interfere in the internal affairs of any country and strictly respects the territorial integrity of countries and the rights and freedom of people.

For her part, Mrs Brusletten stated that the aim of her current visit is to observe at close hand the seriousness of the drought in Ethiopia, and that apart from providing humanitarian aid, it is to strengthen cooperation for development between the two countries.

Eritrean Official Reports Merging of Forces

GF311755 Doha QNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Doha, 21 Jan (QNA) — An Ethiopian official has reported that the three factions which signed the Jeddah agreement on 24 January have been unified. He pointed out that the most important achievements attained so far is the election of an executive committee with 15 members, who represent the command of the unified organization, and the election of Osman Saleh Sabbe as chairman of the executive committee and leader of the Eritrean revolution.

Mohamed Osman Abu (Bakr), representative of the Eritrean Liberation Front, the unified organization, lauded the constructive role of Saudi Arabia and Sudan in attaining the unity of the factions of the Eritrean revolution. They played an outstanding role in drawing closer the views of the leaders of the Eritrean revolution. He also praised the position of the Arab Gulf countries and the position of fraternal Qatar in supporting the Eritrean people and their right to self-determination.

In a statement to QNA, the Eritrean official noted that the first step undertaken by the executive committee during its meeting held yesterday in the Sudanese city of Kasala was the agreement on merging the army in the framework of one command and working in the direction of merging the popular institutions and the political offices at home and abroad in accordance with the resolutions of the Eritrean National Council. He pointed out that the executive committee will continue its meetings in the liberated Eritrean countryside in order to execute the process of merging the forces and escalating military action against the Ethiopian forces.

KENYA

Briefs

Iranian Delegation Visits — Nairobi, Jan. 30, IRNA — A 3-man delegation headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Amid Zanjani, a member of the combatant Ulema Society, visited the Islamic Assembly of Nairobi Tuesday. The delegation is on a tour of Africa on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the Islamic revolution. Its members have met with the leader of the mass prayer of the Jame Mosque in Nairobi and discussed Muslim unity and the Iraqi-imposed war. [Text] [*Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 30 Jan 85 LD*]

Commercial Agreement With Yugoslavia — Nairobi Jan 30 — A Yugoslav trade mission to Kenya has concluded a business agreement worth U.S. dollar 13.5 million with a Kenyan company through which Kenya will export leather, coffee, tea and sisal to Yugoslavia. Addressing a press conference at the end of their ten-day stay in the country, the head of the Yugoslav trade mission, Mr Ales, said his country would in turn export various steel products in Kenya. [Excerpt] [*Nairobi KNA in English 1935 GMT 30 Jan 85 LD*]

SEYCHELLES

France's Penne Arrives From Mauritius

AB311930 Paris AFP in French 1633 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Victoria, 31 Jan (AFP) — Guy Penne, French presidential adviser for African and Malagasy affairs, arrived in Victoria on Thursday from Mauritius, it was learned from the Seychelles capital. He was met at the airport by James Michel, deputy secretary general of the Seychelles People's Progressive Front (FPPS — the country's only party) and also minister of education and information.

Guy Penne said on arrival that the aim of his tour of Indian Ocean states was to strengthen friendship between France and countries in the region. He said that he was carrying a friendly message from President Francois Mitterrand to President France Albert Rene. It is expected that bilateral and cooperation issues betwenen France and the Seychelles will be discussed during Mr Penene's visit.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan: DFSS Kills 37 Soldiers in Ghel Gudut

EA312343 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Units of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia, DFSS, wing of the Somali opposition forces launched a surprise attack on the loyalist troops of General Siad Barre sent to oppress the people living in and around (Docol) village, in the Ghel Gudut region, central Somalia, on 29 January 1985. The DFSS fighters killed 37 dispirited loyalist troops of Gen Siad Barre and wounded 27 others.

The troops were sent to loot and oppress the people of the (Docol) area who are accused of not being loyal to the Mogadishu clique.

TANZANIA

Unionist Charges Interference at OATUU Meeting

AB311727 Dakar PANA in English 1651 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Dar es Salaam, 31 Jan (SHIHATA/PANA) — The secretary-general of the Union of Tanzania Workers, Mr Joseph Rwegasira, charged in Dar es Salaam yesterday that there was foreign interference in the affairs of the Organisation of African Trade Unions Unity (OATUU).

Speaking on his return from Lagos (Nigeria) where he led the Tanzania delegations to the fourth congress of OATUU, Mr Rwegasira accused "certain foreign forces" as (?bent) on causing a split in the organisation. He told a press conference that foreign interference in the affairs of OATUU was not imaginary, but "real."

Waving what he said was a secret document titled: "CIA in Africa Conspiracy To Subvert, Control and Take Over African Unions and OATUU," the Tanzanian trade unionist charged certain bloc confederate of trade unions of "plotting" to wreck OATUU because its charter bars its member countries from becoming affiliates of bloc confederates of trade unions. He said "corridor manoeuvres" at the Lagos congress indicated there was an attempt to scrap non-bloc affiliation in the constitution of OATUU and sack its current secretary general, Mr Denis Akumu of Kenya.

The Lagos congress was attended by 40 African labour centres and liberation movements.

Briefs

Cholera Deaths, Dysentery Outbreak — Lindi — A total of 79 people died of cholera and dysentery in Lindi Region between December last year and January this year. The Lindi regional chief medical officer of health, Dr. Samuel Mgeni, said today that cholera killed 54 people in Lindi District between 12 December and 28 January while 18 people died in Kilwa District during the same period. Dr Mgeni explained that Lindi Hospital had opened two centers in Lindi rural district and one in Kilwa District [words indistinct] cholera. He added that a dysentery outbreak in the region was still a threat, and that so far about 40 patients had been hospitalized suffering from the disease, which has spread throughout all the districts of the region. [Text] [*Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1900 GMT 29 Jan 85 EA*]

Diouf Anniversary Address to Senegambia Confederation

AB312304 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2030 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Address to the nation by Senegambian Confederal President Abdou Diouf on the third anniversary of the Senegambian Confederation on 31 January; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] Senegambians, my dear compatriots and foreigners living among us: I want to give to my address of this evening a particular significance, and I would like you to receive it that way, because the third anniversary of Senegambia coincides with the International Youth Year. It is also because this 3d year of living together within a confederation has to a large extent been geared toward negotiations relating to the protocols on the development of the monetary and economic union, a test case par excellence for the final implementation of our confederal entity.

In my first message to the Senegambian nation, I said that with the unity reached in the introduction of the confederal pact, we were aiming at a long-standing dream. The old dream has now turned into a reality without failing the great expectations that were born into each one of us with the Kaoul agreement. I still remember with pride and emotion the united, enthusiastic, and popular impetus which brought about the creation of our confederation 2 years ago.

Today, 3 years later, I would like to seize this opportunity to bring before you the balance-sheet of the work done so far, in particular during the present 3d year of our confederation which has just ended. After the legislative institutions of our two countries gave their agreement, Senegal and Gambia in 1984 ratified three protocols of the confederal pact and the exchange of draft protocols. The first protocol is for the coordination of the policies of the two confederal states in the field of transport. The second is on the coordination of policies in the field of telecomm 'cations, while the third relates to the coordination of policies i the field of information. In the near future, the instruments of ratification of these three protocols will be exchanged.

For the implementation of the pact itself or other protocols already being implemented, draft proposals will soon be exchanged between our experts. They relate to free movement, to the settlement of people and goods on the entire Senegambian territory, to the rules applied for the presentation of proposals to the confederal parliament by the president of the confederation and their promulgation by the president, to confederal defense and integration of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Senegal and the Republic of the Gambia to set up the confederal armed forces as called for in Article 4 of the protocol arising out of Article 8 of the pact, and finally to the creation of a court of arbritation, as called for in Article 15 of the pact.

After a study of these proposals by experts of the two countries meeting separately, meetings will be called to negotiate and then finalize these protocols. I would like to mention that in 1984, the Confederal Council of Ministers of Senegambia met regularly or every 2 months in order to assess the functioning of the confederation in its totality before issuing appropriate measures. There were also in 1984 regular meetings of the confederal parliament as well as its specialized commissions, in compliance with the timetable drafted. It is therefore imperative that in 1985 we carry on with these negotiations faster than we did in 1984. We must move ahead, for we can no longer go back.

In the year 1985, we need to intensify the efforts we have already made, at all levels, especially at the political level, to enable the Senegambia Confederation to make substantial progress and even to finalize negotiations for the achievement of economic and monetary union. In this regard, I refer to the numerous negotiations aimed at consolidating Senegambia that were spontaneously held by all Gambian and Senegalese working masses.

Before I end my speech, I would like to say how proud I am of the armed forces and of the forces of our confederal state. During the past year, they continued to ensure with the same efficiency and the same determination the internal and external security of the Senegambian nation. I renew my total confidence in them and express once more my entire satisfaction with them.

Fellow Senegambians, my fellow countrymen, in a little over 15 years, [words indistinct] would have begun. It is obvious that there is no time to lose. We must therefore act upon reality, and we can act upon it only by facing it squarely. Looking at reality squarely is to realize that the world is changing.

Good evening, and happy holiday, dear fellow countrymen.

BENIN

Military, Security Appointments Announced

AB310835 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 0615 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Report on meeting of the Permanent Committee of the National Executive Council held in Cotonou on 30 January — read by Frederic Affo, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation]

[Excerpts] By a decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolution Party of Benin, the following appointments have been made:

In the Presidency of the Republic: Grand Chancellor of the Beninese National Order, Comrade General Barthelemy Ohouens.

In the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces: Chief of General Staff, Comrade Lieutenant Colonel Charles Gbebada; Chief of Staff of the National Defense Forces, Comrade Lieutenant Colonel Gaston Coovi; Chief of Staff of the Public Security Forces, Comrade Lieutenant Colonel Leopold Ahoueya; Commander of the stations [commissariats] of the Public Security Forces, Justin Dahin Atassa.

In the Ministry of Interior and Territorial Administration: Director of Immigration and Control: Comrade (Marc Guinikoukou).

BURKINA

Canada Closes Mission; Burkinabe Envoy Recalled

AB311410 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The permanent secretary in the Ministry of External Relations and Cooperation met the press late this morning to announce the closure of offices of the Canadian mission in Burkina and of ours in Canada. Let us listen to him:

[Begin unidentified secretary recording] I conferred with the comrade president of the Faso today on a number of problems. First of all, I briefed him on the operations of the ministry in the absence of my minister, who is on a trip to Paris — you are already aware of this. We also reviewed major international issues. But the most important issue we addressed today is undoubtedly Canada's reconfirmation of its decision to close the office of its embassy in Ouagadougou as of 31 January 1985, today.

This decision has surprised us because our relations with this friendly country had always been cited as exemplary cooperation in terms of both the quality and quantity of aid granted to our country. We were also surprised because Burkina Faso is a country in which Canadian aid to the Sahel is assembled, and Burkina remains a privileged gateway because it is the headquarters of a number of very important organizations such as the Liptako-Gourma Development Authority, the Inter-State Committee to Combat the Drought, CILSS, and so on. Lastly, we are surprised by the fact that the Canadian Government seems to have turned a deaf ear to our many appeals to it to reverse its decision. So we have simply taken notice of this sovereign decision. As far as we Burkinabe are concerned, we are willing to work toward maintaining and strengthening our relations of cooperation with Canada.

However, we have decided as a matter of principle to recall our ambassador to Ottawa and to leave a skeleton staff in place at our embassy in Canada, which will be attached to one of our diplomatic missions in North America. [end recording]

Cooperation Talks With Netherlands Begin 30 Jan

AB311726 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Burkinabe-Netherlands cooperation talks began yesterday at ONERA [National Livestock Development Company]. The Burkinabe side to these talks is being led by Comrade Adele Ouedraogo, minister of budget, acting for her colleague at the Ministry of Planning and Development. As for the Netherlands delegation, it is being led by Van Tooren.

Declaring the meeting open, Comrade Adele Ouedraogo expressed satisfaction with the quality of the relations existing between the Netherlands and Burkina Faso. The minister of budget also expressed the hope that the Netherlands would give particular attention to the drafting of our 5-year development plan when the time comes.

For his part, the leader of the Netherlands delegation recalled that the consultations between our two countries, which used to come up yearly, will henceforth take place twice a year, adding that this development is an improvement in our relations as well as a sign of progress in our method of work.

Capital CDR Branch Attacks Intellectuals, Unionists

AB312245 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

["Press communique" issued by the Ouagadougou garrison branch of the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution, CDR — read by Master Sergeant (Kotienga) Adramane]

[Text] Press Communique: The Ouagadougou garrison committee met in an extraordinary general assembly on Wednesday, 30 January 1985, to discuss the fallacious statement issued by some individuals in the pay of imperialists and operating under the cover of trade unionists.

In fact, on 28 January 1985, in a statement calling for mobilization, a few dishonest and petit bourgeois intellectuals maliciously tried to abuse the confidence reposed in them by members of their trade unions. This statement once again shows, by its incoherent content, the bellicose attitude displayed by the signatories of this statement, who have some unavowed designs and pretend not to be aware of the fairness of the decision made by the National Council of the Revolution [CNR]. We can therefore rightly ask: For whom and in whose interest are they working?

On Democratic and Trade Union Freedom: The 30 January statement once more widens the circle of the so-called threat which hangs over democratic and trade union freedom in Burkina, a slogan which has become fashionable to the dogmatic sectors who sincerely miss the neocolonial Upper Volta. But in Burkina Faso, who should enjoy democratic freedom? In our opinion, the notion of freedom is intimately linked with class struggle. Democratic freedom today is the achievement of the popular and democratic revolution [RDP] and this can benefit only the militants of the RDP. It is used by the people to assert their domination over their class enemies. Consequently, we cannot pay any attention to the lamentations of the people's enemies in disarray, especially when once they find themselves in danger these enemies utter gross nonsense against the people and their popular power.

These ambassadors of imperialism even dare to question the liberating work they themselves admit is in the common interest and that can take the people out of misery. By the sweat of the people they have been able to learn to read and write and are today living in a luxury that enables them to ignore their origins. But they should know that the people will be able to chase them out for their betrayal.

Fall in Purchasing Power: The underminers of the popular and democratic revolution shout to anyone prepared to listen to them that the CNR is starving workers. But what really is the situation? After claiming in the name of freedom not to work any more, these wretched individuals want to freely enjoy the benefits of the popular and democratic revolution. They rejoice over free

housing, the reduction in school fees, and shove everyone else aside to be at the top of the list of applications for housing units from the state housing company. In spite of all this, they refuse to allow their housing allowance to be taken to help our courageous comrades of the Sahel. What cupidity! We now know that all these machinations are only meant to preserve their well-stocked store of privileges. They try to poison the people's mind by malicious lies on Article 25 of the budget which is, in fact, clearly in the interest of the people. We can see in this act an awkward maneuver to protect land owners, their allies. But their counterrevolutionary activities can never succeed.

We hereby solemnly want to inform these anarchists of trade unionism that the soldiers and paramilitary bodies united within the garrison committee will never allow themselves to be swayed by any destabilizing cliches. We want to inform these circumstantial alliances, such as the Patriotic Development League [LIPAD] and CAI [expansion unknown], and the dreaming Voltan Revolutionary Communist Party [PCRV] not to entertain any illusions. Although they admit the soundness of the popular measures taken by the CNR, these wretched and cynical individuals are doing all they can to poison the minds of the people. We are even more astonished that executive members of the Burkinabe Trade Union Confederation now turn around to question the decisions of the last congress, whereas only yesterday the whole confederation was showing their support for the CNR, and its secretary general even called for the dismantling of other confederations. This is a clear proof that these circumstantial agitations are a form of political strategy. If they want the cat to get married to the mouse, it is their problem. For our part, we firmly ask the CNR to take the most stringent sanctions against all these renegades and their allies in the pay of imperialism. We cannot go on exercising patience over this declaration of war. We are ready to take our responsibility, for the train of the revolution cannot slow down for any reason whatsoever.

The fatherland or death, we shall win!

[issued] by the Ouagadougou Garrison Committee

Undersecretary, High Commissioners Appointed

AB311653 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The Cabinet met yesterday under the chairmanship of Comrade Blaise Compaore, the minister of state at the presidency in charge of justice, mandated by the comrade president of Faso. It examined several items on the agenda.

Appointments: Ministry of Interior and Security — Comrade Doe Alexis Sanou, teacher, has been appointed permanent undersecretary. The following are appointed high commissioners for:

Victor Idogo, primary school teacher **Bam**
Issa Armah Ouedraogo, primary school teacher **Ganzourgou**
Jean-Baptiste Nansomde, jurist **(Koussi)**
Naba Ouedraogo, administrative officer **Lougala**
Tcheba Baro, meteorologist **Sangi**
Hypolite Ouedraogo, adminsitrative officer **Tapoa**
Jean-Clement Yienmitor, administrative officer **Zougoungo**

IVORY COAST

President Receives Rwandan Foreign Minister

AB302237 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The head of state this morning granted an audience to Francois Ngarukiyintwali, the Rwandan minister of foreign affairs, who has been on an official visit to our country since last Sunday. The head of Rwandan diplomacy was the bearer of a message from President Habyarimana to President Houphouet-Boigny. During the audience, the two men shared their desire to strengthen relations between the two countries in the fields of higher education, youth, and culture in order to get to know each other better.

[Being recording] [Ngarukiyintwali] I brought a message from President Habyarimana to President Houphouet-Boigny. I cannot disclose the content of this message, but I would like to say that from a general point of view, this message was related to the bonds of cooperation and friendship which exist between Rwanda and the Ivory Coast.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, this morning you signed cooperation agreements with your Ivorian counterpart. Is it possible to learn of the main points of these agreements?

[Ngarukiyintwali] As far as the cooperation and friendly agreements are concerned, they are general cooperation agreements which lay emphasis on the general aspects of cooperation and solidify and give a legal status to the political relations already existing between Ivory Coast and Rwanda. As for the cultural, technical, and scientific agreements, they provide for an exchange of students, lecturers, cultural groups, and youth in order to get to know our two countries better and to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation. During discussions with Ivorian officials, notably with the head of state and the minister of foreign affairs, we reached agreement, especially on the exchange of students. I am very happy to see that the head of state himself has decided to personally and favorably consider the Rwandan desire to benefit from some of the higher education facilities in the Ivory Coast. [end recording]

It should be noted that at the end of the signing of these agreements this morning, the Rwandan and Ivorian foreign ministers expressed their desire to see that these legal documents, which confirm the links existing between our two countries, lead as soon as possible to concrete acts for the mutual interest of our two peoples.

The Rwandan foreign minister went to Yamoussoukro this afternoon, accompanied by Simeon Ake, his Ivorian counterpart. It should be recalled that the Rwandan minister will leave our country tomorrow for Kigali.

LIBERIA

Matthews Denies Distribution of Leaflets by UPP

AB310849 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The chairman of the organizing committee of the United People's Party, [UPP], Mr G. Bacchus Matthews, has affirmed that they have not distributed any information material anywhere since their suspension. Speaking at a news conference held yesterday in his Broad Street office, Mr Matthews said UPP has replied to the Special Elections Commission [Secom] concerning allegations (?Tuesday) that a number of individuals of various age categories belonging to the UPP have been arrested in Nimba County for allegedly distributing leaflets on behalf of the party.

He refused to comment on the contents of their reply to Secom, but said as soon as they received word from Secom, they would inform the public. Mr Matthews also said since the suspension of the UPP, the organizing committee has consistently met with Secom and each time Chairman Harmon would repeat assurances that the matter would be resolved quickly. [Words indistinct] however, Chairman Harmon has yet to deliver (?on these assurances). Concerning last Friday's statements by the chairman of the Elections Commission that a delegation from UPP visited them and left satisfied, Mr Matthews said the Secom chairman never honored the appointment and that he never saw them that day.

The UPP chairman also reaffirmed his party's intention to participate in the ensuing electoral process and called on Secom to lift the suspension imposed on UPP's canvassing activities.

The statement by UPP comes in the wake of an allegation Tuesday by Secom that while the suspension imposed on the activities of the organizing committee of the proposed UPP is still in force, a number of individuals of various age categories have been arrested in Nimba County for distributing leaflets on behalf of the party.

NIGER

First Batch of Gabonese Food Aid Arrives in Niamey

AB311225 Paris AFP in French 0933 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Niamey, 31 Jan (AFP) – Thirty five tons of wheat flour — the first batch of 210 tons of Gabonese food aid to Niger — arrived at the Niamey airport yesterday, it was officially learned in Niamey today. According to the same source, this aid will be transported by the French Army and delivery will continue through Monday.

NIGERIA

Oil Minister Appraises Outcome of Geneva OPEC Meeting

AB010735 Paris AFP in English 0722 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Lagos, Feb 1 (AFP) — Iran, Algeria, Libya and Gabon were "not realistic" in refusing to sign the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) agreement on lower oil prices this week, Nigerian Oil Minister Tam David-West said here Thursday night. Sooner or later, they will have to go along with the pricing agreement, which reduced premiums for high-quality crude, Mr David-West said on returning from the OPEC conference in Geneva.

Saying that no country could sell oil at the previous OPEC benchmark price of more than $29 a barrel, the minister said that "the market dictates differently" in a situation where reduced demand has left producers facing an oil glut. "We believe they will see reason," Mr David-West said, referring to Algeria, Libya and Iran, which voted against lower price differentials, and Gabon, which abstained. He added: "Circumstances will force them to."

The minister said it would have been better if OPEC had been able to reach a consensus decision, but noted that it was not the first time the organization had acted by a majority vote rather than unanimity. "We should take into consideration the realities," he said. "We disagreed as friends, but we still worked together."

OPEC's Geneva conference was triggered by Nigeria's price cuts to compete against North Sea oil pumped by its main rivals, Britain and Norway — neither or which belongs to OPEC. Mr David-West said that althought Nigeria had "two legs in OPEC and two eyes on the North Sea, we don't want to destroy Britain" (whose sterling currency is under pressure, partly because of the falling returns from its offshore oil). "Nigeria did not reduce its price to undercut Britain," he said. "We did it to keep what we have," he said, adding that "we reached to a dynamic situation."

Nigeria's bonny medium, the heaviest crude it produces, competes directly with Britain's brent equivalent.

Use of Commercial Aircraft for Surveillance Criticized

AB311350 Lagos NAN in English 1310 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Ikeja, Jan. 31 (NAN) — The managing director of the Nigeria Airways, Group Captain Bernard Banfa, yesterday in Ikeja accused the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) of supporting the use of commercial aircraft for security surveillance.

Welcoming the president in-council of ICAO, Dr. Assad Kotaite, to his office, Group Capt. Banfa explained that this was dangerous for developing countries. He said that the African Airlines Association (AFRA), to which Nigeria Airways belonged, had resolved to communicate this view to ICAO. He also called for

adequate representation of the Third World countries, especially Africa, in the management of ICAO and the International Air Transport Association (IATA). He observed that it was time an African was elected to head the IATA.

Dr. Kotaite, a Lebanese, said in a reply that he was in Nigeria to learn first hand the problems and aspirations of the country's civil aviation development. He explained that the use of commercial planes for security surveillance had been discussed by both the council and assembly of the ICAO, and that the meetings considered the sovereignty of airspace and the need for states to refrain from using force for aircraft interception. He said that a questionnaire had already been sent to all member-nations of ICAO and nationl airlines on the stand to be adopted for aircraft interception. He assured Group Capt. Banfa that a decision would be taken as soon as response were received.

On representation of Africans on the ICAO, Dr. Kotaite said that the organisation believed in regionalising its management positions, adding that Africans were well taken care of. He said that with the co-operation existing between ICAO and IATA, he was sure that IATA would take a cue from ICAO and accede to the wishes of the developing nations.

Dr. Kotaite, who arrived in the country on Tuesday evening, has visited the minister of transport and aviation, Rear Admiral Patrick Koshoni, and the management of the Nigerian Airports Authority.

Contributions to OAU Liberation Committee, ANC

AB311743 Lagos NAN in English 1702 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Lagos, Jan. 31 (NAN) — The Federal Government has approved the payment of 54,000 dollars (about 40,500 naira) to the OAU Liberation Committee, a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs said today in Lagos. The money is the balance of Nigeria's contribution for 1984/85, said.

The statement said that payment underscored the importance the Federal Government attached to the liberation struggle in southern Africa. The Federal Government has also made contribution of 1 million dollars (about 150,000 naira) [figure as received] to the ANC fighting white-ruled South Africa, according to the statement. The Liberation Committee is currently holding its 43d session in Accra at which the external affairs minister, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, is leading the Nigerian delegation.

Briefs

Romanian Aid Offer — Calabar, Jan. 30 (NAN) — The Romanian ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Vasile Chivulescu, said in Calabar yesterday that the Romanian Government was willing to assist the Cross River Government to establish a caustic soda plant in the state. The ambassador, who was speaking during a call on the state military governor, Col. Dan Archibong, said that his country was also interested in collaborating with the state in the areas of energy development, building materials and agriculture. He said that the Romanian Government would also assist the Calabar Polytecnic and the Science Equipment Centre, Uyo, by providing them with lecturers in wood technology and science equipment production. Mr Chivulescu also said that the Romanian Government was studying ways of assisting in revitalising the Calabar Cement Company. Responding, Governor Archibong said that the decision of the Romanian Government to participate in the establishment of the caustic soda plant was welcome and would boost the industrial development of the Ogoja area of the state. He said that the state government was already considering a proposal for a geo-physical survey of the area to determine the feasibility of the project. [Text] [*Lagos NAN in English 0945 GMT 31 Jan 85 AB*]

SIERRA LEONE

Stevens Announces 'Wide-Ranging' Salary Increases

AB311927 Paris AFP in English 1901 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, Jan 31 (AFP) — Sierra Leone President Siaka Stevens today announced wide-ranging salary increases for all government employees and members of the armed forces in the West African country. Government employees are also to receive a bonus of one month's salary in February while arrangements are being made to "restructure their salaries and wages," Mr Stevens said in a speech to members of the army and police.

He also disclosed plans to increase the strength of the army and to open a new barracks in the country's southern province.

Bhekimpi Opens SADCC Annual Conference in Swaziland
MB010625 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 1615 GMT 21 Jan 85

[Speech by Swaziland Prime Minister Prince Bhekimpi at the official opening of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference annual conference at the Royal Swazi Sun Convention Center on 31 January — recorded, in Siswati]

[Text] Mr Chairman, your royal highnesses, your excellencies of the diplomatic corps, honorable ministers of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] states, members of other international organizations, distinguished guests, and ladies and gentlemen: On behalf of her majesty, I wish to wholeheartedly welcome you to this SADCC conference in the Kingdom of Swaziland. Your presence here today signifies the heavenly blessings that have been bestowed upon the Kingdom of Swaziland.

The Kingdom of Swaziland is the smallest of the nine SADCC member states, and yet today it has been elevated and honored by the gathering of delegates from the international community. Mr Chairman, in brief, you have mentioned that my task today is a minor one among conference activities. I am here merely to officially open this conference. Before I do so, I wish to say a few words to SADCC.

It has been mentioned that SADCC is a mere 5 years old, having been founded in 1980. The SADCC seed, planted 5 years ago, has taken root in the nine member countries, and the onus is on the member states to nurture the organization to ensure its survival. The member states will have to use all the resources and expertise at their disposal to nurture the organization and ensure its continued progress. This in turn will convince the donor organizations represented at this conference, who are watching the progress of our organization closely, that it is a viable endeavor and thus ensure their continued support of SADCC.

To ensure the success of SADCC, we in southern Africa will need to meet constantly to mold, direct, and manage this organization efficiently. Those pioneers of the organization who met in 1980 agreed unanimously to form this organization. Those member states who remain in the organization have the duty to carry on as one, think as one, if this organization is to survive. Our countries are rich in natural resources: We have land, water, the right climate, and vegetation. We need to use all these resources responsibly to assure donor organizations of our genuine desire to promote the aims and objectives of SADCC. This we can do by developing the necessary infrastructure to boost the tone of SADCC.

Mr Chairman, I do not want to go on forever as you have already outlined the aims and objectives of SADCC. I do wish, however, to divert and address myself to the political aspects of our region. God made us neighbors, and as such we have to love one another as neighbors. The existence of SADCC testifies to this undeniable fact. For SADCC to progress, we have to practice the policy of peaceful coexistence and foster peace in our own countries as well. This will again encourage donor organizations to give us continued support. Disharmony will only serve to harm the organization and hence our prayer for continued peace and stability.

Mr Chairman, let me state Swaziland's case. We in Swaziland have agreements with our neighbors, with whom we are on good terms. Swaziland, small as she is, is situated between two rather large countries, South Africa and Mozambique. We coexist peacefully, respect one another, and are equal. Swaziland respects her agreements with her neighbors. Swaziland's preindependence history shows that she has been colonized over the centuries by three nations: by the Portuguese in the 16th century, followed by the Boers and the British in later centuries. We managed to survive this intrusion. Swaziland owes its tiny size to the fact that its borders were pushed inwards on all sides, in the east, west, and south. It was at one time a vast country. We did, however, continue to live in peaceful coexistence with our neighbors.

Our late king taught us to have forebearance and to solve our differences amicably and without strife. I mention all this because in the past 2 years the monarch sent special envoys to many African countries to make them aware of the fact that the Kingdom had embarked on negotiations with South Africa on the question of border adjustments to correct longstanding problems. We are still continuing with these negotiations with our neighbor, and doing so peacefully. We want to resolve this problem of border adjustments that were made without (?any) mutual agreement being signed. We never signed any official agreement giving our land away. Ladies and gentlemen, I am telling you all this to make you aware that we are constructively negotiating this issue with our neighbors. These discussions are taking place at the round table, peacefully and amicably.

Before the late King Sobhuza II died, he signed agreements of good neighborliness with Mozambique and South Africa, and we still honor these agreements. We in Swaziland subscribe to the admonition that we respect and live in peace with our neighbors, irrespective of differences in political ideology. Many countries look at us askance and say we do not make much political sense. You all know that survival is a primary concern of all nations, and we all have to make sacrifices to this end. A happy, healthy, prosperous nation is a well-secured nation. We in Swaziland believe that in order to survive, we have to live in peaceful coexistence with our neighbors.

We have also learned the wisdom of solving our problems at the conference table. We have studied the world and seen that a country that is constantly at loggerheads with its neighbors does not make any progress and lives in poverty. Today, ladies and gentlemen, we still pursue the same policies and believe in coming to the conference table to thrash out problems with our neighbors, be they South Africa, Mozambique, Lesotho, or Botswana. We believe in dialogue and have utilized this method with all our friends even as far as Zambia. We practice a form of united nations with South Africa, Lesotho, and Botswana. We belong to the same customs union and this arrangement works perfectly. We do not agree with some of South Africa's policies, but that does not mean that we should stop communicating with them. We share the same resources and amenities and have therefore no alternative but to communicate amicably. Ladies and gentlemen, we live in peaceful coexistence in this region with the

aforementioned countries. We agreed that we would work closely in the customs union and other similar unions.

We are not bashful to say that we do from time to time travel to South Africa to discuss matters of mutual interest. We work together on many issues. This is our way of life from time immemorial. I want to make it clear that we openly have dealings with South Africa. We do not do things clandestinely, but carry on our affairs with South Africa in broad daylight. We have signed a peace accord with our neighbor and have also agreed that our countries shall not be used as a haven for each others' enemies. We have agreed that our country will not be used as a launching pad for attacks on our neighbors.

We are nonetheless fully committed to the United Nations Charter governing genuine refugees from our two neighbors, Mozambique and South Africa. Swaziland will still continue to provide political asylum for genuine refugees. We believe that if our country is to prosper economically, we need to have peace and our neighbors need to have peace as well. In order for our country to attract investment, we have to demonstrate that we are a peaceful and stable nation. A nation full of strife chases away investors.

Mr Chairman, what I am attempting to convey is that if SADCC is to enjoy any measure of success, we have to demonstrate to potential donors that their aid will be put to good use and that SADCC is a viable proposition. Mr Chairman, I wish to conclude by saying that it is the duty of us all as members of SADCC to make this conference a success. I now declare the conference officially opened.

Mmusi Says SADCC Not 'Ganging Up' on RSA

MB010851 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER in English 1 Feb 85 pp 1, 5

[Text] The vice president of Botswana, Mr Peter Mmusi, has said that the Southern Africa Development Cordination Conference should not be seen as a ganging up of countries in the region to fight South Africa.

"South Africa is worried that we are getting together to fight them. That is not the purpose of the Organization. Our purpose if to develop our region," Mr Mmusi said at the Convention Centre on Wednesday during the cocktail to welcome delegates to the SADCC conference which started yesterday.

"We want to develop and improve our roads, our railways to South Africa. We want our industries, our education and our agriculture to develop so that we also develop our independence," Mr Mmusi, who is the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the SADCC, said.

"Our task and responsibility is to show development."

Referring to relations between the SADCC countries, most of which are dependent on the South African economy, Mr Mmusi said South Africa would be allowed to join the organisation after they had discarded of their apartheid system.

"We want South Africa to show us the corpse of apartheid. They must show us that they have destroyed apartheid, then we will accept them as members.

"We have observed over the past years an effort towards independence for Namibia. But this has since died. An independent Namibia would become an automatic member of the SADCC," Mr Mmusi said.

Meanwhile, the Minister for Finance Mr Sibusiso Dlamini has praised the progress made by the SADCC since its founding in 1979 [year as published].

The SADCC has raised U.S. $2 billion worth of finance for projects in the southern Africa region, he said.

ANGOLA

214 UNITA Rebels Killed in Kuanza-Norte

NC010734 Paris AFP in English 0544 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Lisbon, Feb 1 (AFP) — Angolan Government forces killed 214 South African backed UNITA rebels during the last half of last year in the province of Kuanza-Norte, east of the capital, Luanda, the Angolan news agency ANOP said Thursday.

Quoting military sources in the provincial capital, Ndalatando, it said six rebel camps had been destroyed.

The rebels had killed more than 200 civilian villagers over the same period, the agency said.

UNITA meanwhile denied official Angolan press charges earlier this week that it had "massacred" 32 civilians, mostly women and children, at the village of Calomboloca, 70 kms (45 miles) south of Luanda.

The rebel statement said 170 government troops defending the village — the birthplace of Angola's first president, Agostino Neto — had been killed.

It added that the town's railway station and two electricity transformers had been destroyed in the fighting.

KUP: Savimbi Swears in New Chief of Staff

MB310712 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Central and Southern Africa 0600 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 31 Jan (KUP) — The new chief of staff of the UNITA armed forces has been sworn-in. In a ceremony held last week, Dr Savimbi, UNITA's president and supreme leader of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA], swore in Brigadier Joaquim Vinama Chendovava to the post of FALA's chief of general staff.

MADAGASCAR

USSR Women's Delegation Meets President's Wife

MB010711 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] (Nataliya Abdukeva), a member of the Soviet Women's Committee, was in Ambohitsorohitra this morning. She was accompanied by the wife of Mr Leonid Musatov, the Soviet ambassador to Madagascar. At the palace, they met the female militants of the vanguard Malagasy revolution, led by Mrs Ratsiraka, wife of the president of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar. [passage indistinct]

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Cites RSA Officials on Support for Resistance

MB010659 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] South African Foreign Minister Roelof Botha yesterday said that he did not exclude the possibility that some people within South Africa are supporting the armed bandits who operate in Mozambique. Speaking at a press conference in Cape Town, the South African minister of foreign affairs told news agencies, "I do not deny that there might be some people within South Africa and other countries who provide such support." He stressed, however, that there was no evidence, adding that he believed the armed bandits who operate in Mozambique were supported by European and Middle Eastern countries.

On Tuesday, the South African minister of foreign affairs told *THE WASHINGTON POST* newspaper that his government was committed to fulfilling the spirit and letter of the Nkomati Accord and that it would not hesitate to take firm action against anyone who violated the accord from South African territory.

Meanwhile, Constand Viljoen, chief of the South African Armed Forces, has sent a letter to a Cape Town newspaper stating that no part of his forces is against the Nkomati Accord.

These South African statements come at a time of growing evidence that forces within South Africa are continuing to support the armed bandits in Mozambique.

NOTICIAS Urges Action To Validate RSA Pledges

MB311039 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Jan 85 p 1

[Editorial: "More Action Than Words"]

[Text] The head of state of the Republic of South Africa has once again formally stated the intention to fulfill the Nkomati Accord and see that it is fulfilled.

The reiteration of this desire is positive. The expression of willingness to repress people or forces that plan or carry out acts of violence against the People's Republic of Mozambique is also a positive aspect. However, it is not a new thing. The Nkomati Accord already is a pledge by the South African Government. It is the first and fundamental statement of intent. Mozambique does not require such statements. For Mozambique the facts were self-evident. However, the facts of the matter have forced the leaders of South Africa to make further statements.

First, it is an attempt to deny the accusations coming from within South Africa itself. The South African press had questioned the honest application of the accord on the South African side. South African journalists who had been in Mozambique collected facts, statements, and firsthand information.

While assurances were being accumulated on the one side, suspicions grew on the other. While the international community congratulated the People's Republic of Mozambique for the rigorous application of the Nkomati decisions, various statements from different quarters questioned South Africa's fulfillment of her obligations.

There is now a new declaration of intent. One does not question the integrity of the South African statement. All statements of promise are, as stated earlier, positive. However, the facts count more than the words.

Several steps have in fact been taken. The trip made by South African Minister of Foreign Affairs Roelof Botha to several countries that operate as bases of support for the armed bandits is a positive step. But there are still many other and decisive steps needed to contain the violence in our country.

It is actions rather than intentions that will build the much desired atmosphere of tranquillity, an atmosphere which will equally serve the two countries, the two peoples.

In fact, two theories may be considered: either the South African Government does not want to fulfill Nkomati, or it finds itself unable to see that it is entirely fulfilled. Let us accept the stated desire of the South Africans as legitimate and genuine. It is also possible that there may be difficulties in controlling forces and sectors that, right from the beginning, forged aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique. It is also possible to believe in this second alternative, which is to say, it is still possible to hope that the Nkomati Accord will bear fruit and justify the enormous hope that Mozambicans and South Africans had for it. However, it is not possible to wait much longer, because to wait is to give time to those who take our lives and stain our brief existence with horror and blood.

It is true that there are proper venues for clarifying the matters in question. That is a matter between the two governments and must be dealt with serenely and maturely. However, the men who love peace, who want to live in tranquillity and security, wish to see the promises becoming reality, and seek to see in acts, and not only in words, proof of the South African fulfillment of the pledges undertaken before history on 16 March last year.

Sofala Party Official Held for Aiding 'Bandits'

MB310715 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 17 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] The secretary for economy of the Frelimo Party District Committee in Gorongosa, Sofala, was recently detained on charges of providing military information to the armed bandits. Roberto Goncalo Fraqueza was born in that district and is a party member.

NAMIBIA

38 SWAPO 'Insurgents' Killed in Past Week

MB010858 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0835 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 1, SAPA — Security forces in northern SWA/Namibia shot dead 38 SWAPO insurgents in the last seven days, the SWA Territory Force said in Windhoek today.

In the same period, the security forces suffered one fatality — Constable Willem Van As, 26, who died in action yesterday. The SWATF said the latest SWAPO deaths brought to 74 the number of insurgents killed in January. Quantities of equipment of communist origin were seized.

In the past week, several unsuccessful attempts were made by insurgents to blow up telephone poles, while an Ovambo-speaking civilian, Mrs Francina Moses, was abducted at gunpoint by two insurgents. Another civilian was killed in a landmine blast, while a bomb exploded at a service station at Onanjokwe in northern SWA/Namibia, the SWATF said.

SOUTH AFRICA

Reaction to Botha Offer Extended to Mandela, Others

Prisoners To Be Told of Offer

MB311921 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The government is to make sure that prisoners serving sentences under the country's security legislation are informed of the contents of the offer extended by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, to the leader of the banned ANC, Nelson Mandela, and others. They are to be informed also about announcements concerning the constitutional future of blacks in South Africa.

The minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, has announced in the House of Assembly that copies of the state president's speeches in this connection are to be handed to the prisoners and that any comment from them is to be relayed to the government through official channels.

Treurnicht Opposes Release

MB311917 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The leader of the Conservative Party [CP], Dr Andries Treurnicht, reacted to the state president's announcement by saying that Mandela, according to recent authoritative witnesses, had in no way rejected violence as a political weapon. The CP, he said, therefore deemed it to be in the interests of national security that his release should not be considered.

Slabbert Praises Statement

MB311725 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] State President Botha's announcement on the possible release of Nelson Mandela was welcomed by the leader of the opposition in the House of Assembly, Dr van Zyl Slabbert. Describing it as a far more reasonable and tolerant attitude than that shown in the past, he said that the final choice now lay with Mandela.

Dr Slabbert said it was significant that the offer of a release had also been extended to other prisoners serving sentences in terms of the country's security legislation. He believed it would be appropriate for the same approach to be adopted toward banned individuals and organizations such as the ANC and the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress].

ANC Said To Reject Offer

MB010813 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1500 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] Unusually swift reaction to Botha's offer [to release Nelson Mandela] has come from the British Government. A foreign office official in London says the government supports the offer, adding that Mandela's release would be widely welcomed as evidence of the desire for reconcilliation in South Africa. The official points out that the British Government has consistently called for the release of all political prisoners in South Africa including Nelson Mandela.

The exiled ANC leadership's response has not been made yet, but the *RAND DAILY MAIL* reports that sources close to the ANC leadership in Lusaka have rejected the offer. The paper quote a Lusaka source as saying the choice is up to Mandela, but the ANC is not satisfied with Botha's conditions.

ANC 'Cautious' in Support of Mandela Statements

MB010926 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 3 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] The African National Congress this week gave cautious backing for Nelson Mandela's statement that he was prepared to call a truce if the organisation was unbanned.

An ANC spokesperson told *CITY PRESS* that the organisation had always been prepared to talk to the South African Government, but it had resorted to the armed struggle because "we had nobody to talk to."

But the spokesperson said the ANC could not comment specifically on Mandela's statement because "Mandela is sitting there in Pollsmoor Prison and we are not certain what he really said."

"We would like to get it directly from him and, if possible, we would like to talk to him ourselves."

He said the ANC would issue a more detailed statement at the weekend.

But, he added, the ANC would only talk to this country's government if the agenda for discussion was the total eradication of apartheid.

He said if the South African Government was prepared to discuss the dismantling of apartheid — and not just the cosmetics — the organisation would be willing to talk.

"We have always been prepared to talk. Our willingness to talk is history itself.

"We only resorted to the armed struggle because we had nobody to talk to."

He said the ANC viewpoint was that, because black people had been excluded from decision-making processes, it always considered the South African Government as an illegal regime.

"Liberation from apartheid and the creation of a democratic unitary state is our aim.

"But we do not believe that the South African Government has anything meaningful to discuss at this stage.

"We are not prepared to discuss bantustans and other divisive designs," he said.

Le Grange Says Suzman Creates False Picture of Mandela
MB301947 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] Law and Order Minister Mr Louis le Grange says Helen Suzman is trying to create a false impression of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Speaking in the no confidence debate today Le Grange, accused the Progressive Federal Party member of Parliament of ignoring aspects of Mandela's views. Suzman quoted an interview between Mandela and visiting British parliamentarian Lord Bethell in Parliament yesterday and Le Grange today said that she tried to create the impression that Mandela was keen to negotiate with the government and [word indistinct] the ANC to lay down its weapons.

Le Grange said she neglected to quote other parts of the interview in which Mandela apparently said he still supported the armed struggle and was not repentent for the activities which put him in jail. Le Grange also said Suzman did not mention that, in the minister's words, Mandela was a self-confessed socialist.

Radio: ANC Must Choose Between Violence, Talk
MB310700 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Station commentary: "The ANC Again"]

[Text] Whether Nelson Mandela is still authorized to make statements on policy changes on behalf of the ANC is open to question. Presumably Oliver Tambo and his cohorts in Lusaka have their views on that. Nevertheless, a statement made by Mandela to a visiting British member of Parliament deserves to be examined more closely, to assess its significance.

According to Mrs Helen Suzman, Mandela offered what she called a truce, in exchange for legalizing the ANC in South Africa. *THE WASHINGTON POST* went further, claiming that he was offering to put an end to ANC violence, in exchange for legality. From such interpretations, it seems the offer could have meant anything, from a propaganda ploy to one extreme, to a complete reassessment by the ANC of its role in South African politics.

If, indeed, the ANC is considering the abandonment of its policy of seizing power through violence in this country, an interesting new situation would arise. The attitude of the government towards negotiations with the ANC is unequivocal, and barely a month ago, President P.W. Botha made it clear that it remained inflexible. His government would not talk to any group that employed violence as an instrument for achieving political ends, Mr Botha said.

That standpoint was not formulated to deal with any particular organization, such as the ANC. It is in fact a corollary of the view that the only generally acceptable means for resolving differences among diversive groups is through negotiation among them. Obviously, however, a precondition to such negotiation, if it is to achieve the required, generally acceptible results, is a commitment among participants to the peaceful resolution of those differences.

By definition, any group which espouses violence as a way of blackmailing society in order to promote its political views, excludes itself from that debate. Until now, that has been the situation of the ANC, and hence the reason for rejecting talks with it. The record of ANC terrorist activities and the statements from its leaders, until very recently, have given no cause for believing that Nelson Mandela's offer heralds a sudden decision by the combined leadership to abandon violence and return peacefully to the arena of democratically conducted politics.

Such a change — if there is one — would have to be demonstrated through something more than vague and ambiguous statements, at the least, by the visible abandonment, over a period, of all forms of terrorist activity.

The ball remains in the ANC's court, where it has been all along. It is up to that organization to chose between participation on the same terms as all other political movements — primarily a commitment to peaceful negotiation — and continuing on its present course, and remaining irrelevant in South Africa's political development.

Viljoen Announces Black Resettlement Suspension

MB011420 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 1 Feb 85

[Text] The resettlement of black communities is to be suspended until the government reviews its policy.

Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the minister of cooperation, development, and education, told foreign correspondents at a briefing in Cape Town today that the review would affect hundreds of thousands of blacks.

However, the government would continue to resettle black communities if their leaders agreed. Dr Viljoen said the review has been initiated because the government is sensitive to the general critical attitude toward resettlement.

The review would examine between 25 and 30 black communities in white areas and about the same number of urban black townships slated for incorporation in the national states.

Foreign Minister Comments on Issues, Policy

Mozambique Charges Not Verified

MB311008 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1956 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Cape Town, Jan 31, SAPA — The government had not been able to verify allegations made by Mozambique concerning support for Renamo from South African soil, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said in a statement today. Other enquiries initiated by the South African Government were continuing.

Responding to a speech by Mr Colin Eglin (Progressive Federal Party, Sea Point) during the no confidence debate in parliament, Mr Botha said the government had repeatedly stated that it would respect the letter and the spirit of the Nkomati Accord.

Mr Eglin said in his speech that the Mozambican National Resistance Movement "which this government strengthened and supported and used for its purpose in Mozambique in the pre-Nkomati days, has slipped out of the South African Government's grip and is now a threat to the accord."

Mr Botha said the government had on numerous occasions stated publicly that it was not giving any assistance to Renamo.

He said Mr Eglin should be aware that President Samora Machel of Mozambique had stated that his government did not accuse the republic of breaking the accord.

"South Africa has, on the basis of certain information provided by the Mozambique authorities, conducted certain specific enquiries but has not to date been able to verify the allegations made regarding certain individuals.

"The South African Government has moreover initiated certain enquiries of its own and these are continuing," Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha said Mr Eglin had also spoken of violence in more general terms.

"I wish to repeat that the South African Government deplores most strongly acts of violence in Mozambique and considers continued violence in that country to be a threat to the stability and orderly development of all the countries of southern Africa," the minister said.

It was for this reason that he had been in contact with various governments in Africa and "elsewhere further abroad" and this was also the reason that the government had continued efforts to bring about peace in Mozambique.

"Mr Eglin should be aware that the positive and constructive role which South Africa is playing in the search for peace in Mozambique is appreciated by governments in Africa and elsewhere.

"The South African Government was invited, through the 3 October 1984 declaration, to play a role in the implementation of that declaration," Mr Botha said.

On Mozambique Cease-Fire

MB311430 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] A foreign telephone call caused the collapse of the cease-fire talks in the Mozambique guerrilla war. This claim has been made by South Africa's Foreign Minister Pik Botha in an annual briefing with foreign correspondents in Cape Town. Botha has said the two sides in the war were within sight of an agreement in November that would have set a date for a cease-fire.

The talks between the Mozambique Government and the MNR rebel movement took place in Pretoria with the South African Government. Botha has said the foreign interference sabotaged the talks and since then there has been no progress toward an accord and negotiations are at a low point. Botha has described how elements from abroad, who he would not identify, contacted the rebels' representative, Evo Fernandes, and told him to ask for an adjournment of the meeting.

More Rebels From Botswana

MB311934 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] South Africa's foreign minister has revealed that an increased number of guerrillas are infiltrating South Africa from Botswana, but Pik Botha says he is not sure if this is a result of the Nkomati Accord.

[Begin Botha recording] It is difficult for me to say that the increase in activity is due solely to the fact that Mozambique cannot be used anymore by the ANC. It is tempting to believe that, but then in the past, let me say that before Nkomati, the terrorists also came through Botswana. But there certainly is a marked increase since December of terrorists moving through Botswana, through Bophuthatswana, on their way to South Africa to commit violence. [end recording]

Foreign Minister Pik Botha was speaking at a briefing for foreign correspondents in Cape Town.

Defends 'Coventry Four' Action

MB311441 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1351 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] House of Assembly, January 31, SAPA — The South African Government's actions on the "Coventry four" had been fully justified in terms of international law, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said today.

He defended the government's action during the no confidence debate quoting "the recognised authority" Walkers Oxford Companion to Law on reprisal.

He said that according to Walker, reprisals were "acts of self-help, short of war" which could be taken against "anything" belonging to or "in the sphere of interest" of the offending state.

This clearly included action against courts as these were "in the sphere of interest" of the United Kingdom.

Walker, he said, also defined reprisals as "reactions against violations of international law."

To illustrate that the United Kingdom had violated international law by refusing to evict the Durban six, Mr Botha quoted from an interview by the British television interviewer, Sir Robin Day.

A leading law professor of Sussex University had admitted to Sir Robin that Britain was in danger of violating international law if it did not evict the six refugees from the British Consulate in Durban at the request of the South African Government.

The consulate had been occupied by the six fugitives on September 13 last year and Mr Botha had immediately phoned the British representative at the British Embassy in Pretoria.

"I was told they would have them out by lunchtime," Mr Botha said.

"On September 14, the next day, a certain Mr Rifkind, a junior minister at the Foreign Office, said they would not be forced out.

"There is no doubt that it was a breach of international law," Mr Botha said.

Further Reaction to President Botha's Speech

RAPPORT Praises Remarks

MB310910 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 27 Jan 85 p 16

[Editorial: "Giant Step"]

[Text] President P.W. Botha's opening address to Parliament on Friday is one of the most important speeches he has ever made in his long public life. His guidelines on the position of blacks outside the independent and national states can rightly be regarded as a positive declaration of intent on the part of the government.

It lays the foundaton for the process of negotiation and bargaining in a spirit of mutual trust and creates the possibility of overcoming the country's complicated problems by political debate and representation.

The most important aspect of his speech is undoubtedly his intention to establish an informal, nonstatutory forum through which interest groups and representatives of black governments can discuss matters which would range from improving communication between government and black communities to development in the political arena.

Mr Botha's speech must be seen as proof of the government's sincerity about negotiation. As far as political rights of blacks outside the national states are concerned, the government clearly plans to take the bull by the horns — while at the same time not forgetting the blacks in the national states. It has become evident that the task of the special cabinet committee, which in the past months has been investigating the political rights of blacks, will have to be widened.

Hopefully, the government negotiating team under the chairmanship of Mr Chris Heunis will also include experts who can deal with various aspects of the requirements of blacks.

On several occasions already, Mr Botha said that the blacks outside the national states have to be accepted as permanent residents of South Africa. He also said that government accepts that these people are unable to make themselves heard politically at the highest level of government through the governments of the national states.

With that as a starting point, it is evident that methods must be found for bringing these people into the decisionmaking process at the highest level of government. This immediately raises other issues: citizenship for these people; appointments of blacks to statutory and other representative bodies; the revision of the 99-year leasehold system; a review of influx control in order to promote ordely urbanization — all issues which Mr Botha touched on.

In order for all this to succeed, the correct attitude and approach by all will be necessary. It is a great and daunting task that lies ahead.

'Hand of Friendship' Extended

MB311030 Pretoria DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 28 Jan 85 p 12

[Editorial: "Hand of Friendship"]

[Text] In his opening address to Parliament last Friday, State President P.W. Botha said the prejudice and suspicion among various population groups can only be overcome if we are prepared to bridge the communications gap and take part in dialogue with each other.

The president was not addressing foreigners or South Africa's enemies, but populations and communities who find themselves permamently resident here, people who have to live together in a totally integrated economy.

This is not a new realization that has taken root, nor is it the first time a head of state has made this plea. But seen against the events since the inception of the new Constitution in 1983, the question of the breaking down of suspicion and mistrust among the different groups has taken on fundamental significance. It applies mainly between blacks and whites.

Mr Botha knows the country's responsible black leaders, and he is known to them, from personal meetings, discussions, and cooperation in areas of mutual interest. As in the case of the white leader, the followers of the black leaders number in the tens of thousands and millions.

The degree of peace and order in this country is sufficient proof that the majority of the population accept each other's right to exist. Those radicals wno want to force others into the sea are an insignificant but neverthelss dangerous minority, dangerous because the weak and less informed among the loyal masses can be negatively influenced. This became abundantly clear during the Colored and Indian elections last year.

The hand of friendship Mr Botha is extending to the responsible black leaders should be grasped without hesitation. The fruit of healthy dialogue should be shunned, for there is no alternative which promises guarantees.

With the creation of the new constitutional dispensation for white, Colored, and Indians, the political door was not slammed in the faces of the blacks. On the contrary, that door is now wide open, now that the political future of the millions of blacks outside the national states had been given the highest priority.

The first logical step towards joint decisionmaking affecting all those involved is a dialogue at the highest level among leaders. The spadework has been done, and the necessary investigation is underway. The state president has given his seal of approval to the priority — that is the spirit in which the task has to be undertaken.

Revives Old Ideas

MB311022 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 31 Jan 85 p 11

[By Patrick Laurence, political editor]

[Text] When it comes to proposing a place for blacks in his overall constitutional plans, President P.W. Botha resembles a poker player without new cards who must pretend his old cards are new ones.

Nearly all the proposals mooted by Mr Botha in his address to parliament last week were not new initiatives but reformulations of already rejected or abandoned ideas.

One of the key items was the establishment of a "informal statutory forum" for discussion of constitutional matters with invited black leaders.

But as Chief Gatsha Buthelezi was quick to point out, the forum is but the jettisoned Black Advisory Council in new garb.

When blacks were excluded from the old President's Council in 1979, they were offered a separate "advisory council" as a platform or forum where they could formulate proposals on how they should be accommodated politically and constitutionally.

Blacks, however, overwhelmingly rejected the advisory council ...whose members, like those of the new forum, would have been nominated by the ruling whites rather than elected by their own people.

In August 1980, Mr Botha, who was then prime minister, announced that his administration would not proceed with the advisory council.

It is difficult to see why the new forum-cum-advisory council should be more acceptable to blacks in today's political climate of heightened tension and greater expectations.

Another concept mooted by Mr Botha in his address was the establishment of a intermediate stage between partial self-government and full independence for the black "homelands".

The idea of greater automony for the homelands, which stops short of full sovereignty, represents an attempt to resolve the impasse in which the Botha administration finds itself.

The goal of official policy for the "homelands" remains independence, as Mr Botha noted in his speech.

But at lease half of the designated "homelands" still spurn it, among them KwaZulu, numerically the largest.

The creation of "further stages of autonomy," as Mr Botha labelled the stages between partial self-government and independence, might be interpreted as a calculated bid to lure "homelands" further along the independence road.

But it is not a new idea: it was previously put before parliament in the form of a bill in 1977 after the township rebellion of 1976.

The 1977 bill provided for the establishment of "internally automonous homelands," which were empowered to give their heads of state any title they wished — including, presumably, the title of "president" — and to pass any laws deemed necessary for "internal peace, order and good government".

In his speech, Mr Botha disclosed that the special cabinet committee on blacks outside the "homelands" had investigated, and made recommendations on, the controversial question of citizenship.

Mr Botha did not reveal further details, except to emphasise that "clarity must be reached soon on the question of citizenship".

Citizenship as it pertains to South Africa's blacks is, of course, one of the most controversial aspects of prevailing policy, largely because of its denationalisation provisions.

In terms of this policy, blacks deemed to be citizens of the "independent homelands" were stripped of South African nationality when their designated "homelands" accepted Pretoria's offer of independence.

Mr Botha's committment to re-examination of the question of citizenship coincided with reports that his administration is considering introducing a form of dual citizenship.

But, again, the idea of dual citizenship is not new. It was investigated in 1980 by a special committee appointed by Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, the then chairman of the President's Council, and headed by Professor Charles Nieuwoudt, of the University of Pretoria.

The proposal considered at the time was a dual citizenship in which all South Africans would have a common, confederal citizenship, embracing the right to South African nationality, as well as a second-tier citizenship tying them to their designated "homelands".

But the idea was rejected by the committee, largely because of conservative white opposition.

It remains to be seen whether Mr Botha's planners can breath new life into the discarded dual citizenship concept and then "sell" it to blacks, who are increasingly demanding equal citizenship rights without any qualifying "ifs" or "buts."

Mr Botha further undertook to oversee the removal of "negative and discriminatory" aspects of influx control.

His pledge revokes a similiar promise a decade ago from the Prime Minister John Vorster. That promise turned out to be the prelude to tightened influx control and heavy fines for employers of blacks living unlawfully in prescribed urban areas.

Mr Botha also expressed his determination to resolve the problems raised by relocation of blacks to the "greater satisfaction of all those concerned".

His words again recall the past, in this case the statement by former Minister of Cooperation and Development Dr Piet Koornhof that there would be no more forced removals "as far as humanly possible".

Mr Botha's willingness to sympathetically consider granting freehold rights to blacks in townships in white-designated South Africa represents a breakthrough, however.

But his emphasis that extension of property rights is not the inevitable prelude to full franchise rights is another warning that the restraining hand of the dead past is still very much on his shoulder.

State Department Cited

MB310631 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The United States has again commented on the state president's speech regarding the political future of the blacks, and described it as a significant and welcome statement.

The American State Department said last night that Mr P.W. Botha's speech was seen as a welcome statement of the major problems still confronting South Africa. It said the United States trusted that Mr Botha had prepared the way for definitive measures that would translate the spirit of Friday's speech at the opening of Parliament into action.

It hoped, furthermore, that the emphasis which he had placed on consultation and negotiation would lead to dialogue and encourage change in South Africa.

Heunis Says White Monopoly on Constitution at End

MB311637 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of constitutional development and planning, Mr Chris Heunis, says no single group in South Africa will in future be able to bring about unilateral change in the Constitution and that the monopoly of the white community in constitutional matters has finally come to an end.

Speaking during the no confidence debate in the House of Delegates, Mr Heunis said political participation by black communities was one of the most compelling matters still remaining on the political agenda. He said the government was engaged in a continuous process of reform, but the international community seemed incapable of understanding that the democratic ideal which had to be attained in South Africa had to be tailored to its particular requirements.

Minister Cites Need for Visible Progress

MB301819 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk, says the speech by the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, at the opening of Parliament last Friday calls for a new approach by all those involved in South African politics.

Speaking during the no confidence debate in the House of Assembly, he said that if there was no visible progress in South Africa, the country would be subjected to growing tension which could lead to chaos and devastation. Renewal and frankness should not come from one side alone.

Mr de Klerk said that every South African was faced with a choice. He could either take part in attempts to solve the country's key problems or end up in what he termed the dead end of ideological inflexibility.

ZAMBIA

Official Asks for Continued Cuban Presence in Africa

MB311846 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] Lusaka Provincial Central Committee member Fines Bulawayo welcomed the visiting 3-man Cuban delegation in the capital with an appeal for continued Cuban presence in southern Africa to ensure a balance of power.

At a luncheon hosted for the visitors, led by deputy head [as heard] of the Cuban Communist Party (Evo) Valdes, Mr Bulawayo said the presence of Cuban troops in the region was vital to the liberation struggle for Namibia and abolition of apartheid in South Africa. He urged the Cubans to reaffirm their partnership with the oppressed black majority in Namibia and South Africa, saying they should not lose heart in their humanitarian gesture.

Mr Bulawayo spoke of the close personal friendship between Presidents Kaunda and Fidel Castro and he expressed hope that Dr Castro would visit Zambia in the near future.

In reply, Mr Valdes voiced his delegation's appreciation for the hospitality accorded to it since the visit began [word indistinct] vivid memories of the immense contribution Zambia is making to the liberation struggle in the region.

ZIMBABWE

Supply Minister Calls for Banning Nkomo's ZAPU

MB312014 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 31 Jan 85

[Text] The Zimbabwean minister of national supplies, Mr Enos Nkala, has called for the banning of the opposition ZAPU party led by Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Speaking in the Zimbabwean Parliament, Mr Nkala accused ZAPU of fomenting rebel activity in the Southern Matabeleland Province, where about 200 people have died since 1982. He alleged that senior officials of ZAPU have led what he called hit squads into some parts of Matabeleland to intimidate people into voting for their party. In local government elections 2 weeks ago, ZAPU won nearly all the seats in Matabeleland, but it has denied any connections with the violence in the province.

Mr Nkala said that if ZAPU ceased to exist, Zimbabwe would have the chance to create peace and tranquillity.

Minister Says Dissidents Headquartered in Bulawayo

MB301832 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 30 Jan 85

[Text] The minister of national supplies, Comrade Enos Nkala, has said that dissidents have their headquarters in Bulawayo. He said all the bandits' operations and logistical support are coordinated from there.

The minister made the statement in an interview with ZIANA [ZIMBABWE NEWS AGENCY] and added that for an army to operate it must have an organization, a leader in the camp. It has been discovered that the center of all dissidents is Bulawayo. He said all their movements, plans, logistics, and orders emanate from there.

Briefs

Loan From the Netherlands — Zimbabwe will this year receive a soft loan worth 8.8 million dollars from the Netherlands Commodity Import Program. The money will be used for rural development. A statement issued by the Netherlands Embassy in Harare said the aid commitment was made yesterday during a meeting held by delegations from the two countries. The statement said Zimbabwe's Ministries of Trade and Commerce and Industry and Technology have identified sectors which will benefit from the loan. The loan brings to almost 100 million dollars the total amount of aid to Zimbabwe from the Netherlands. [Text] [*Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 30 Jan 85 MB*]